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One PLO man aboard Kuwaiti jumbo: 'No way found to end hijack drama'

Plane heads for Algeria after hijackers free 12

4 Kuwaitis among 12

THE Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry last night announced the names of the 12 passengers who were released by the hijackers. The Kuwaiti passengers are: Adnan Rashed Jassem Majeki, Mohammed Ashkani, Habib Ibrahim Safar Malik and Saleh Ibrahim Safar Malik. Among the released were the following five Egyptians: Abdalla Mahrouk Al Abed, Mohammed Kamel Al Sayed Rouhani, Sharif Mamdouh, Ramadhan Mohammed Aleyah and Fathi Saad Falaah. There were also three Jordanian passengers among the freed: Sa'idi Yousef Qutainah, Helal Adel Fareed and Ghassan Ahmed Hassan Al Ram'ah. After his release Ashkanani said that none of the members of the Kuwaiti royal family still held hostage. Fadhil Al Sabah, is in bad shape "both mentally and physically." His sisters Ehtesam and Anwer were in good condition, but they were handcuffed, Ashkanani said. "Other passengers... are alright." He was happy that he was released, he said. Saleh Malek said the hijackers all the time asked the passengers to keep their heads down between their knees with their hands on their heads.

LARNACA, April 12, (Agencies): A hijacked Kuwait Airways jumbo jet took off late last night with about 40 people aboard, after gunmen released 12 hostages but kept three members of Kuwait's royal family. The blue-and-white Boeing 747 departed at 1:17 am (2217 GMT Tuesday) and the hijackers said they planned to fly to the North African nation of Algeria. A PLO official is accompanying the hijackers and rest of the hostages to Algeria Al Seyassah reporter Ayad Al Sabi has learnt. An authoritative Algerian source said the commandeered Kuwaiti airliner was headed for Algiers late last night but no way had yet been found to end the hijack drama.

Expected

The source said the Boeing 747 was expected in Algiers after a flight of four or five hours. An official source in Kuwait said the plane's first contact was with the Kuwait airport control tower, a few minutes after take-off from Larnaca airport. The source said the crew members of the plane, pilot Subhi Yousef, co-pilot Eid Al Azmi and flight engineer Ayed Al Shamaian seemed to be in good health. Just before takeoff one of the gunmen said by radio: "We deny what has been reported by radios and by the media that we are ready to hand the plane to anyone. We refuse to do that, until martyrdom." He did not refer to the hostages. The gunman called the jet "the plane of great martyrdom." But Cyprus government spokesman Akis Fanitis told reporters that his government had received assurances from unspecified "sources in Algiers" that the hostages and the plane would be released. The freeing of the passengers and the refuelling, begun simultaneously, was carried out as part of a bargain struck between PLO chairman Yasser Arafat and the hijackers, the airport sources said. As part of the deal, the pirates were to release half of the hostages before being allowed to fly on to Algiers, they said. Shortly before the hostages were freed, an explosion was



Three of the released Kuwaitis enjoy their freedom (left). Another passenger (right) is helped into the Larnaca Hospital.



Another passenger (right) is helped into the Larnaca Hospital.

heard but officials in the Larnaca airport control tower said it came from outside the airport and was not related to the hijacking. The new turn in the hijacking came after three meetings between the hijackers and representatives of the PLO. Arafat said in Kuwait that he expected the hijacking to end tonight. As patience appeared to waver on the eighth day of the ordeal, the terrorists indicated they might blow up the plane rather than give up their demands. Hours before the refuelling got under way and the hostages were released, the hijackers warned, "if we don't get fuel in 45 minutes you will force us to act in a different manner." Minutes before the deadline expired, two PLO representatives met with the hijackers for 12 minutes at the door of the jumbo jet from a portable ramp, starting a series of brief meetings during the afternoon. The gunmen at this beachside airport earlier asked for flight charts for Algiers, the capital. Airport workers refused the plane and a man believed to be a crew member radioed: "All tanks full." He asked that air-conditioning units hooked into the plane be removed for takeoff. About 40 people remained aboard the jetliner. The man later asked, "Are you sure they'll accept us in Algiers? We don't want to get stuck in the air."

A control tower official answered that a telex received from Algerian authorities was "very definite. Yes, we will confirm that for you." The freed hostages were driven away from the plane at around 10:25 pm (1925 GMT) theo taken to the hospital. A source there said: "They seem to be OK. There weren't any visible injuries." Dr. George Olympios, a physician at the hospital, said "one of the patients told me that the three royals are still on the plane." Cypriot Interior Minister Christodoulos Veniamio said negotiators in the hijack drama had been assured the remaining hostages would be freed in Algeria. "We were assured they would be freed in Algeria. We have assurances from the Algerian government as well," he told reporters without elaborating. Kuwaiti Minister of State for Services Issa Mohammed Al Mazzei, however, said he had "no idea whether the others will be freed in Algeria."

(Reuters wirephoto)

KAC cancels flights to non-Arab Asian countries

KUWAIT Airways Corporation (KAC) imposed tough security measures, including the cancellation of flights to non-Arab Asia, following the hijacking of a Kuwait plane by gunmen who have so far killed two passengers. "Of course, the security department, they took emergency measures," airline spokesman Abdullah Nafesi said yesterday. He would not discuss specific precautions but a reservations official said flights had been cancelled for nine months in all points east of the Arabian peninsula. This covers Colombo, Bombay, New Delhi, Karachi, Dhaka, Manila and Bangkok, he said. Flight KU 422 was en route from Bangkok to Kuwait when the gunmen seized the Boeing 747 over the Arabian Sea.

Identity

A Kuwait Airways pilot said that on some routes passengers were now obliged to identify their luggage on the tarmac and undergo searches on the plane's loading ramp. Kuwait Airways sources said names of passengers on reservation lists were now being screened more carefully. "The safest airline in the world now is Kuwait Airways because of its stringent security measures," said the expatriate pilot, who did not want to be named. He added that similar "exceptional measures" were imposed after the 1984 hijacking to Iran of a Kuwait Airways flight. The 106-hour ordeal at Mehrabad airport ended when Iranian troops stormed the plane. Two US AID officials were killed by the hijackers, who like those on Cyprus demanded the release of 17 Arab prisoners held in Kuwait.

Security

Five Kuwait Airways flights have been hijacked since 1977. Three had originated from or stopped in Beirut. A senior Thai security official said police were questioning about 20 workers who serviced the hijacked airliner before it left Bangkok about the possibility weapons had been placed on the jet by airport personnel. Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed said on Monday pistols and hand grenades had apparently been smuggled onto the plane in Bangkok, but he did not say how or in what quantities. In Bangkok, a senior investigator has ruled out a theory that the hijackers of Kuwaiti airliner smuggled their weapons aboard the jumbojet in Bangkok through a ramp area used by service personnel. "It is not possible," said Group Capt. Anake Udil, a deputy managing director of the Airports Authority of Thailand and member of a team investigating the 15-hour period the plane was in Bangkok. "Anyone going through the ramp area had to go through tough security clearance, including the cleaners and caterers," Anake said by telephone. "That is not easy."

Anake was asked to comment on a scenario described by Rodney Wallis, head of security for the International Air Transport Association. "On the basis of discussions we've had so far, the probability is that weapons were placed on board the aircraft through the coercion or collusion of staff on the ramp," Wallis said in Montreal. Anake said Kuwait Airways hires guards from the airport authority and from a private security company, the MPA Co., to look after its planes while they are on the ground in Bangkok. "The security men did not take their eyes off the plane once it landed," he said. Anake said the airport authority has not discussed the origin of the weapons with the International Air Transport Association.

Arafat threatened to end mediation

YASSER Arafat, the PLO chairman said yesterday he will end PLO mediation efforts in free hostages on a Kuwait Airways jet in Cyprus if the hijackers continue to kill passengers. "I told them (the hijackers), I will not continue my mediation in this atmosphere. If they touch the passengers and crew I will stop my mediation. We are against these crimes, terrorist actions and hijackings..." Arafat told a news conference. PLO and Cypriot officials have been mediating between Kuwait and Arab gunmen demanding the release of prisoners in Kuwaiti jails. The gunmen have killed two Kuwaiti passengers and yesterday said they were ready to die if the plane was not refuelled. "They have received instructions from their leaders, maybe by radio," Arafat said. At one point media efforts appeared to be close to success, he said. "Then the whole mood changed because of the outside orders. Everything had been going fine."

He added that the gunmen had repeatedly changed their position, offering first in release 10 hostages and then 34. They had expressed a wish to go to Algiers and Arafat said he had contacted Kuwait and Algeria to facilitate their demand "and to guarantee that they go to Algiers and not in any other place." He ruled out that the operation would end after the Kuwaiti plane goes to Algeria if there are no guarantees from the hijackers and from those who direct them to free all the hostages. Arafat told local journalists the hijackers' leaders were based in Beirut and he was in touch with them. Arafat "mentioned that the negotiations between the PLO and the leadership of the hijackers in Beirut entered a difficult stage after the killing of the

(Continued on Page 7)

Changed The gunmen have killed two Kuwaiti passengers and yesterday said they were ready to die if the plane was not refuelled. "They have received instructions from their leaders, maybe by radio," Arafat said. At one point media efforts appeared to be close to success, he said. "Then the whole mood changed because of the outside orders. Everything had been going fine."

Stayed Information Minister Mahbubur Rahman told reporters Bangladesh had returned to normal after violence-marred polls on March 3. "The emergency has not stayed even a day longer than was necessary," he said.

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Ershad lifts emergency DHAKA, April 12, (Reuters): President Hussain Muhammad Ershad lifted today the emergency he imposed on Bangladesh last November at the height of an opposition campaign to topple him. "The President has withdrawn the state of emergency" state-run television said in a terse announcement.

The opposition called the move cosmetic and vowed to continue its campaign of strikes and protests to force the 58-year-old former Army general to resign. Planning Minister A.K. Khandaker has already left for France where he will ask for \$2.2 billion in aid for the year beginning July for this impoverished country of 105 million people. "It would be ridiculous for him (Ershad) to ask for money (while) keeping his country under subjugation," Hasina said. Ershad clamped curbs on civil liberties and press freedom, and banned anti-government protests on Nov 27.

(Continued on Page 7)

Hang the terrorists, says Khaled's brother

By Lima Khalafawi

MORALE is high among the family of Khaled Ayoub Bander, the second Kuwaiti victim of the hijacking of the Kuwait Airways jumbo jet. Ali Ayoub, the brother of the victim, said that the hijackers were ignoring the teachings of Islam. He said people were ready to take further risks and lose everything than yield to blackmail. Ali said Kuwait should go ahead and execute the three terrorists on death row whom the killers are trying to free. Ali was watching television when he saw a body thrown from the plane by the hijackers.

(Continued on Page 7)

20,000 devices cleared: Pakistan TV

ISLAMABAD, April 12, (Agencies): The Pakistani government said today it had not ruled out sabotage as the cause of an Army arsenal explosion that poured rockets into Islamabad and killed at least 98 people. "We are not ruling out the possibility of sabotage," Deputy Defence Minister Naeem Mahmud told Parliament. Pakistan Television, meanwhile, said 170 teams of explosives experts, working round the clock, have so far cleared 20,000 missiles, grenades and other weapons that lay around the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi. President Zia-ul-Haq said yesterday that an estimated 6,500 missiles were in the cleared. There was no explanation for the discrepancy in the figures. Newspapers speculated that Sunday's explosion at Qjri arms depot was an attempt to destroy weapons destined for anti-Soviet Afghan guerrillas based in Pakistan.

Caused Islamabad acknowledges that it helps funnel US- and Chinese-supplied weapons to the guerrillas but Zia described as speculation news reports that Qjri was a transit point in the arms pipeline. Newspapers said lorries

(Continued on Page 7)

owned by Afghan exiles were parked in streets around Qjri at the time of the explosion. Mahmud said the blast, which injured 1,100 people and caused destruction in a 15 km (nine miles) radius, was a matter of shame for his ministry. State-run Pakistan Television reports said most of the children missing from Sunday's blasts have been reunited with their families. About 100 people remained unaccounted for, it said. There has been widespread public criticism of Army security following the explosions at Qjri.

(Continued on Page 7)



Khaled

Second hijack victim named

KUWAIT yesterday said the second captive killed by hijackers of a Kuwait Airways plane was a 20-year-old member of the Fire Brigade. Arah hijackers threw a body onto the tarmac of Larnaca airport in Cyprus on Monday and said it was of a Kuwaiti military officer. They killed a 25-year-old Kuwaiti Border Guard on Saturday. An Interior Ministry statement said: "The ministry announces with deep sorrow that the second victim of the criminal murders of the hijacked Kuwaiti plane is Khaled Aynuh Ismail Aynuh Bander, 20." Officials said the announcement was withheld pending identification of the badly mutilated body through finger prints and notification of the family. The ministry statement called on Allah "to grant patience to the remaining hostages, relieve them of their sufferings and return them to their families and countries safely."

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں

- باسرفرات کی طرف سے
- جاتی ختم کرنے کا مطالبہ
- کویت اور وزیر نے پاکستان
- سمیت تمام ایشیائی ممالک کیلئے
- ان پراوازیں مطلق کر دیں
- افغان سمجھوتہ پر کل دستخط
- ہو جائیں گے
- سعودی آئل ٹینکر پر ایرانی
- جنگی کشتیوں کا حملہ
- اکیڑی ہاپارڈز کا طاعان
- رویتیاں

WEATHER

CLOUDY weather continues and a chance for scattered rain with light to moderate southeasterly wind. State of sea: moderate to rough. High water: 10.00 am, 9.00 pm. Low water: 3.00 am, 3.00 pm. Sunrise: 5.24 am. Sunset: 6.14 pm. Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 31°C 88°F. Fulaika: 29°C 84°F. Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 19°C 66°F. Fulaika: 21°C 70°F. Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 65 per cent. Fulaika: 63 per cent. Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 64 per cent. Fulaika: 63 per cent. Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 65 per cent. Fulaika: 63 per cent. Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 64 per cent. Fulaika: 63 per cent.

Shultz, Shevardnadze travel to Geneva

Afghan accord on Thursday

WASHINGTON, April 12. (AP) Secretary of State George Shultz admits it will be hard to end the fighting between Afghanistan's rebels and the Soviet-backed government, but predicts the withdrawal of Soviet troops will bring some stability to the war-torn nation.

"I... expect that the Soviet Union will withdraw fully from Afghanistan, and then the people of Afghanistan have got to work things out," Shultz said. "That's their right and their problem."

The Secretary met with reporters after President Ronald Reagan announced last night that he was dispatching Shultz to Geneva to sign the troop withdrawal accord negotiated last week between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Reagan lauded the US-backed rebels, who have battled the Kabul government since the 1979 Soviet invasion.

"This development would not have been possible had it not been for the valiant struggle of the Afghan people to rid their country of foreign occupation," Reagan said. "We take great pride in having assisted the Afghan people in this triumph

and they can count on our continued support."

Under the agreement, the United States and Soviet Union will guarantee a plan dictating the removal of the Red Army's 115,000 troops from Afghanistan.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will sign agreements for the withdrawal of an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops from Afghanistan at a ceremony in Geneva on Thursday, a spokesman said in Moscow today.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Vadim Perilyev confirmed the date of the ceremony, which will also be attended by US Secretary of State.

The pullout is set to begin May 15, only two weeks before Reagan is scheduled to fly to Moscow for his fourth summit session with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The rebels, or mujahideen, were not part of the talks. They have rejected the agreement and pledged to continue fighting to topple the Kabul government.

Yet under a compromise with Moscow that is not a formal part of the accord, the United States

will continue sending weapons to the rebels, while the Kremlin continues providing arms to the Marxist government.

Asked if US pledges to continue supporting the rebels contradict the formal agreement, Shultz replied only, "I'm not going to step into that hole."

He said the United States would continue to aid the rebels, "as needed."

Weapons
Moscow is sharply increasing weapons supplies to Afghan troops to help them fight off an expected onslaught by Muslim guerrillas after the withdrawal of Soviet troops. Western diplomats said today.

"If the Afghan troops ever lacked anything in the past that's being made good now," one of the diplomats said. "The Soviets are pumping it in."

The rate of increase in weapons supplies, brought in by air and land and including artillery and rocket launchers, had taken place over the past three weeks. Previously, arms supplies had been rising only moderately.

"The trucks are getting bigger and the convoys longer," the

diplomats said. Checkpoints around the capital, Kabul, have been reinforced with concrete and heavy armour over the past three weeks and patrols by Soviet and Afghan troops were stepped up during voting starting on April 5 for a national assembly.

Property
Meanwhile, Afghanistan is returning confiscated property to refugees as they return home, the Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda said today. Pravda quoted Kabul officials as saying 121,263 refugees had returned to the country by early April.

This represents just 2.5 per cent of the five million Afghans who have fled the war between Kabul government forces and Muslim rebels since the Soviet Union sent troops into the country in December 1979.

Some three million refugees sought shelter in Pakistan and most of the rest went to Iran, but Pravda said Afghans were also returning from Australia, Austria, Britain, West Germany, Japan, Turkey and the United States.

35 killed as Muslims clash in Philippines

CAGAYAN DE ORO, April 12. (AP) Clashes between rival Muslim groups in the southern Philippines have left at least 35 people dead and have forced the evacuation of hundreds of civilians over the past five days, the military said today.

Regional Army spokesman Lt Col Edgar Centeno said fighting was concentrated in the mountain town of Carmen in North Cotabato province, 928 kilometres south of Manila on strife-torn Mindanao island.

Centeno said the clashes were between the Moro National Liberation Front and its main breakaway faction, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

He said at least 400 residents of Carmen and nearby villages had evacuated since last month when the clashes were first reported.

MNLF sources downplayed the clashes. They said the fighting was between feuding families belonging to the two Muslim separatist groups. But they said the clashes were not sanctioned by the leadership of the two rebel groups.

Centeno said government troops had been sent to the area to prevent the fighting from spilling into other villages.

Journalist detained without trial

AMRITSAR, April 12. (Reuters) Police arrested a Sikh reporter today covering the violent Sikh separatist campaign in the north Indian state of Punjab.

Kuldip Singh Arora, 36, the Amritsar correspondent of the United News of India (UNI) news agency, was held under the National Security Act which allows for detention without trial for up to two years, police told reporters.

China's parliament picks new cabinet

PEKING, April 12. (Reuters) China's parliament has elected a younger government, approving all candidates proposed by Premier Li Peng and bringing seven new faces into the cabinet. State Television broadcast the line-up today which includes new ministers of foreign affairs and defence as well as a new head of the Central Bank in a government reduced to 41 from 45 departments.

Average age
Delegates to the National People's Congress queued to place their votes in huge red boxes on the floor of the Great Hall of the People as top leaders cast their ballots on the stage above them. Voting was completed in less than 20 minutes. Delegates could approve, object or abstain from voting for the one candidate for each post.

Hamadi denies part in abduction

DUESSELDORF, April 12. (AP) Alleged Lebanese kidnapper Abbas Hamadi today denied involvement in the abduction of two West Germans in Beirut, and his defence attorneys asked the court to find him innocent of the charges.

Hamadi is accused of kidnapping the two West Germans in an alleged attempt to force the West German government to release his brother, suspected TWA hijacker Mohammed Hamadi.

Before Hamadi's statement, defence counsel Ludwig Hoeller told the court that the defendant did not contest explosives charges against him and recommended that he be sentenced to one year in prison.

But Hoeller said Hamadi should be released because he



Elizabeth Taylor cuddles her latest gift from her multimillionaire friend Malcolm Forbes. (Reuters wirephoto)

Liz gets a gibbon

BANGKOK, April 12. (Reuters) Actress Elizabeth Taylor, on holiday in Thailand, cuddled her latest gift from her multimillionaire friend Malcolm Forbes little knowing the anguish she was causing to local wildlife conservationists.

Local journalists and officials showed respect due to royalty to the veteran Hollywood star, and pictures of her fondling a tiny pet gibbon were widely in the newspapers.

Injury
But for Pait Na Phathalung, head of the Wildlife Fund of Thailand, and Phairate Suwanakorn, deputy director of the government's forestry department responsible for conservation, it was a depressing sight. "People like Elizabeth Taylor do not realise that you have to shoot the mother gibbon to get hold of the baby. The hunters are not the best shots. We reckon that for every baby that reaches

the market 10 die," Pait said in an interview.

"Sometimes the mother is shot and the baby is injured when she falls to the forest floor. Sometimes a baby gibbon will enter the market with a cracked skull," he said.

He added: "I would like to say to people who hold these animals in their hands they should think how many lives were lost on the way — the trail is covered in blood."

Phairate said: "I don't support someone like Elizabeth Taylor having a gibbon as a pet. I don't support the private trade in wild animals. It is not good for the animals."

Taylor, in a party of top US businessmen including Forbes, chairman of Forbes magazine, John Scully, chairman of Apple, and Roger Smith, chairman of General Motors, played host to reporters aboard Forbes' luxury yacht.



Qian Qichen

beath. Central Bank chief Chen Muhua, the most senior woman in the Chinese government, was replaced by Soviet-trained engineer Li Guixian. Li like his predecessor, has no financial experience.

The Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Zheng Tuobin remained in his job despite pre-congress speculation he might be forced out.

40 hurt in Gaza protests over deportations

TEL AVIV, April 12. (Reuters) Israeli troops wounded more than 40 people today during violent protests in the occupied Gaza Strip hometowns of Palestinians expelled to Lebanon for anti-Israeli activity.

Officials at Shifa and Ahli hospitals in Gaza city said they treated 42 Palestinians for wounds from rubber bullets, beatings and tear gas inhalation. They said troops shot and wounded a Palestinian, aged 20, in Jabalya refugee camp.

Troops were out in force throughout Gaza and closed Jabalya, Nuseirat and Sha'ti refugee camps to choke off riots in response to the expulsion of eight Palestinians yesterday. Five of the expelled Palestinians were from Gaza.

Trapped
In the occupied West Bank village of Talluza, the Army said demonstrators set up roadblocks and trapped a bus carrying soldiers. They hurled stones, slightly injuring an officer. Troops fired shots and wounded two Palestinians.

Four of the nine members on the Rafah Municipal Council in the Gaza Strip resigned in answer to an appeal by the self-declared leadership of a four-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied areas, Palestinian sources said.

An Israeli official said at least three of the councillors, appointed by Israeli authorities, had submitted written resignations.

Israeli generals said the expulsions of the eight Palestinians had so far not ignited the unrest expected, but they warned it was still too early to draw conclusions.

"In general, the disturbances were localised," said Major General Yitzhak Mordechai, the Gaza Strip commander. "The Gaza Strip is still under control."

But he added: "I believe that in the next few days there will be those in the strip who will exploit the expulsions to incite."

Widespread violence followed Israel's last expulsions in January. At least 139 Palestinians and two Israelis have died since the uprising in the occupied territories erupted in December. Since then, Israel has expelled 4,800 Palestinians.

In Jerusalem, the US Ambassador said the US was "deeply concerned" about Israel's use of excessive force and denying legal rights in its handling of the unrest.

United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar appealed to Israel to rescind the expulsions and expressed concern the demolition of 14 houses in the West Bank village of Beitza would aggravate tension.

The Army said troops shot dead three Palestinians last night in the West Bank village of Kafr Ra'i, near Jenin, hometown of two deportees.

In the Nasser neighbourhood of Gaza city, home of expelled Muslim militant Abdel Aziz Odeh, Palestinians burned tyres, erected barricades and raised outlawed Palestinian flags.

Fahd orders security review for haj

RIYADH, April 12. (Reuters) King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has ordered a top level review of security for this year's pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca.

The review was announced just hours after Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini said yesterday Tehran would send 150,000 pilgrims on the annual "haj" to Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia has already said it will not tolerate demonstrations this year and has announced quotas on pilgrims which would cut the number from Iran by two-thirds to 50,000.

More than 400 people, mostly Iranians, were killed in clashes during an Iranian-led demonstration in Makkah last July.

The official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said King Fahd ordered the setting up of ministerial sub-committees to "study questions relating to security" following a cabinet meeting late last night.

SPA quoted Information Minister Ali Hassan Al Shaer as saying committees would be set up to "ensure the comfort of the pilgrims and to enable them to perform their prayers and duties and to worship with maximum ease and in safety and peace."

Relations between Riyadh and Tehran have been severely strained since last year's clashes in Makkah.

The annual pilgrimage is due to begin in mid-July.

Khomeini's remarks were reported by Tehran Radio yesterday, which quoted him as saying it was impossible for Iranian pilgrims to go on the annual pilgrimage and not demonstrate against what he termed "world arrogance."

Bangladesh opposition calls strike

DHAKA, April 12. (Reuters) Major opposition parties have called an eight-hour general strike for April 25 when President Hussain Muhammad Ershad is expected to address the opening session of parliament.

"The strike would prove that it is a fake parliament and its so-called members represent only themselves," a committee linking the 21 opposition parties said in a statement.

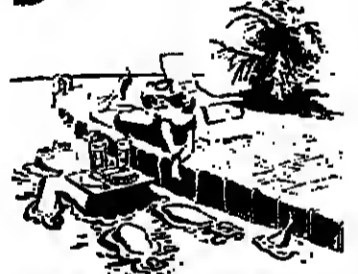
The opposition has charged that there was widespread fraud and fake voting in the March 3 elections in which the ruling Jatiya Party won 251 of the new parliament's 300 seats.

The opposition boycotted the election.

It accuses Ershad, a former Army general, of running a corrupt government with the backing of the military and wants him to hand over to a caretaker government that would hold fresh elections.

The general strike would be the 28th since the opposition launched its fierce campaign to force Ershad to resign last November.

Sundowners



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Lebanon's civil war enters 14th year

BEIRUT, April 12. (Reuters) When civil war broke out in 1975, most Lebanese thought it would end in weeks.

Thirteen years and 176,000 deaths later, they tend to doubt if an end to the violence is near. On April 13, 1975, a husband of a Palestinian was ambushed in a Christian suburb of Beirut.

About 30 Palestinians were killed in the attack, generally seen as the spark which ignited a bitter conflict between Christian militias and Muslim forces.

Since then the violence has cost an estimated 176,000 lives, maimed thousands, uprooted whole communities and cost billions of dollars in damage.

"The decor might have changed and maybe some of the actors, but the violence and the hatred go on. There is nothing on the horizon but more clouds," said a Muslim politician.

The Lebanese remain sceptical of a solution as the strife enters its 14th year. Scores of ceasefires and attempts by both local and foreign powers have not ended the fighting.

Israeli troops occupy part of the south of Lebanon. Syria, the main foreign power-broker, has 25,000 troops deployed in the Eastern Bekaa, the north and West Beirut.

The rest of the country is split into "cantons" controlled by sectarian militias. State authority has seldom been weaker.

All eyes are now on presidential polls before Sept 23, when President Amin Gemayel ends his six-year term.

"If reconciliation is not achieved by the time the election is over, every Lebanese must face up to the fact that his country will not see salvation in the near future," said one Beirut.

Joint mediation by the United States and Syria aimed at giving Muslims a bigger say in government now seems the only hope for reconciliation. But L'Orient de Jour newspaper has described efforts so far as a "futile exercise."

Election

Attempts to find a political solution have been deadlocked since 1985, when Gemayel refused to endorse a Syrian-sponsored peace plan. This aimed to end the war by giving Muslims more say in the political system, which favours the minority Christians.

Syria has since boycotted Gemayel and is now trying to ensure the election of a president who will not challenge its role in the war-torn country.

Muscovites get first taste of US pizza

MOSCOW, April 12. (Reuters) American pizza went on sale in Moscow today from a van parked on the Lenin Hills dominating the city and the first Russians to try a slice had a unanimous verdict: "delicious".

Selling for 1.25 roubles (\$2) a slice, the tomato and cheese pizza won approving comments from a number of brides on traditional post-wedding excursions to Lenin Hills.

"It's completely different from Soviet pizza — it's really good," one young woman commented.

Soviet pizza usually consists of a tinny tomato floating in unsipped sauce with ingredients striking the pizza habitue as strange — chicken, for example.

In contrast, the production on sale on the Lenin Hills was the real thing, brought to Moscow as a joint venture, launched by New Jersey entrepreneurs under the trade name Astropizza. Their white van, decorated with Soviet and American flags, attracted a small crowd under grey Moscow skies during the opening ceremony, attended by several Soviet officials.

Dukakis upsets Jews over Palestinian state

NEW YORK, April 12. (Reuters) A week before the crucial New York presidential primary, Democratic frontrunner Michael Dukakis disturbed American Jewish leaders by refusing to rule out the creation of a Palestinian state.

But Dukakis stressed that a decision on establishing such a state — a stand no US president has supported while in office — was one Israel, Jordan, Egypt and "responsible Palestinian leaders" would have to make in direct negotiations.

The Massachusetts Governor was asked specifically if he would rule out the creation of a Palestinian state. He replied this was something not for the United States to decide but was a question for Israel and its neighbours to negotiate.

"We (the United States) are not going to impose a pax Americana on the Middle East... a solution begins with some form of self-rule and moves from there," Dukakis told about 250 US Jewish leaders on Monday.

Israel has steadfastly refused to consider the creation of a Palestinian state and it was doubtful it would agree to such a state in direct negotiations with its Arab neighbours.

Dukakis repeated his refusal to criticise his main Democratic rival, black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson, telling those who demanded he do so that he preferred to run a positive campaign about his own candidacy.

The issue of recognising Jerusalem as Israel's capital has to be negotiated, he said, adding it is clear to Israel and Jews every-

where that Jerusalem should always be the capital.

On moving the US Embassy, now in Tel Aviv, he said: "I know of no other nation in the world where we don't in effect say to the country itself, 'we go where you say the capital is'."

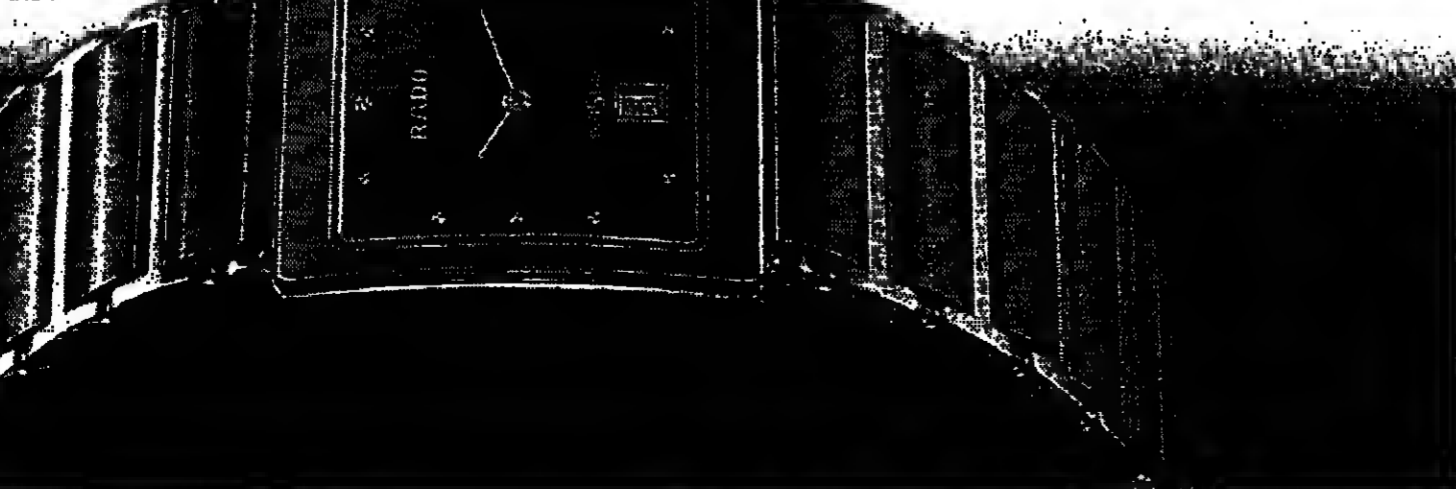
Dukakis received a tepid reception from the Conference of Presidents of major American Jewish Organisations, a group that represents one of the largest voting blocs in New York, where about a quarter of Democratic voters are Jewish.

"It falls short of what some of us would like to hear," Kenneth Bialik, past chairman of the conference said later. "He did not produce floor-stomping applause, but neither did he show himself to be a weak sister in his support of Israel."

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Ministers stress need to halt war

DOHA, April 12, (Kuna): Information ministers of the seven Arab Gulf states today concluded their two-day meeting stressing the need to halt the Iraq-Iran war and cautioned of the dangers of its continuation to peace and security in the region and the world.

The Gulf Information Ministerial Council, in a statement following their deliberations here called for executing Security Council Resolution 598 that calls for halting the war.

The statement noted that the resolution should be implemented in its sequential order because it is a document that expresses the international community's will.

Information ministers of Iraq, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman and the United

Arab Emirates, in their final statement expressed appreciation for Iraq's positive stance toward all peace calls in this regard.

Support

The information ministerial council has also examined the latest developments in the occupied Arab territories in the light of the uprising against the Israeli occupation, the statement said, noting that the ministers reiterated support to the Palestinian people in their just struggle.

The statement also said the council had stressed that there would be no peace in the Middle East but through the convening of the proposed international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

Velayati confers with Sheikh Zayed

ABU DHABI, April 12, (UPI): Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, on the second leg of a Gulf Arab tour, today conferred with United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan on the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war, the Emirates news agency reported.

The agency said Velayati, who arrived from Oman on Monday, conveyed a "verbal" message from Iranian President Ali Khamenei.

It gave no further details, but the Iranian news agency, Irna, said Velayati presented "documented evidence" on Iraq's deployment of chemical

weapons during an air raid on the Iraqi city of Halabja March 18. Iran has said at least 5,000 people were killed in the raid.

Irna, monitored in Abu Dhabi, said Velayati urged UAE officials to strengthen bilateral cooperation "in a bid to diffuse tension in the region."

The UAE and Oman maintain friendly relations with Iran, unlike their partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), which also includes Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and Bahrain.

Iranian officials said Velayati was expected to fly to Qatar later Tuesday.

UAE-Czechoslovakia aviation agreement

ABU DHABI, April 12, (Kuna): The first agreement on organising flights between the United Arab Emirates and Czechoslovakia was signed here today.

The agreement was signed by Czechoslovak Communications Undersecretary and UAE Communications Assistant Undersecretary for Finance and Administrative Affairs, and Civil Aviation Mohammed Yahya Al Swaidi.

The agreement concerns the two UAE national airways

including Gulf and UAE Airways, as well as Czech's Airway Company.

Czechoslovak airplanes according to the agreement have the right to use all the international airports in the UAE including Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharja, Ras Al Khaima and Fujaira, and UAE has the same rights in Czechoslovak international airports.

The number of the weekly flights between the two countries is to be fixed later.

Photography exhibition

KUWAIT Teachers Society's photography committee has invited the public to participate in the society's 17th photography exhibit which is scheduled to be held from May 28 to June 2. This year's exhibit will focus on vandalism of public services and utilities.

The head of the committee Sulaiman Al Qattan said the exhibit was the society's way of contributing to the government's campaign to protect public utilities.

He explained that competitors would be allowed to participate in three competitions involving black and white and colour photographs. He said all pictures should be 30 x 40 cm, presented on a white cardboard backing 40 x 50 cm in size.

Photographs must be hand delivered to the photography committee of the Teachers Society by May 4, 1988.

Thirty prizes will be presented to the winners.

Three board members quit

THREE members of the Board of Directors of the Kuwaiti Travel Agencies Union submitted resignations at the sixteenth ordinary session of the general assembly.

Mane Hamad Al Mane, one of the board members who resigned, said he had done so because of the number of problems in the union and the apparent lack of interest in solving them.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti daily, he said that those who had resigned had tried to get the

board to convene to discuss a special matter, but the other board members were too busy. He added that it sometimes took them two months to meet after a meeting was called.

Al Mane went on to say that they were refused sufficient authority to deal with urgent matters involving the public's interest. He said the board had also failed to take the necessary steps to implement Act 31 in 1987 which was aimed at controlling competition among travel agencies.



● HH the Amir yesterday bade farewell to the presidents who attended the OIC mini-summit in Kuwait. He is seen above with the President of the Maldives, and, below, the President of Turkey.



Egyptian minister visits S. Arabia

RIYADH, April 12, (Kuna): Egyptian Minister of State for the Cabinet Affairs Atef Obeid arrived here last night on an official visit to Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Press Agency said that Saudi Minister of State and member of the cabinet and acting Planning Minister received the Egyptian minister.

SPA did not give further details about Obeid's visit.

Meanwhile, Radin Cairo said that the Egyptian minister will meet with Second Deputy Premier, Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz and discuss ways of promoting ties between the Arab authority for industry and commerce parties in Saudi Arabia.

The discussions will also tackle means of enhancing relations between Cairo and Riyadh.

Graduation ceremony

THE College of Health Sciences at Kuwait's Public Authority for Applied Education and Training held a graduation ceremony on Sunday for graduates of the last academic year.

The college dean Fnuziya Mulla Hussein, speaking on the occasion, said the graduates were an essential part of the country's plans towards national development.

She said the college provides the Ministry of Public Health, Kuwait Municipality and the private sector with health specialists in areas of nursing, pharmacy and nutrition sciences.

Ibrahim Mudf represented the Minister of Public Health Dr. Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak at the ceremony.

ICA conference

THE Inter-Arab Cambia Association (ICA) is scheduled to hold its 15th annual conference in Amman, Jordan, July 8 to 10.

ICA president Abdullah Al Dakhil yesterday told Kuna that the conferees will be lectured on investment in Jordan, predictions on major currency rates during the present year in addition to other reports.

About 300 persons working in the field of banking will take part in the three-day conference, Al Dakhil added.

Al Dakhil, who is also executive director of Burgan Bank's international dealing department, said a committee was formed to prepare and supervise deliberations of the conference.

Expats contribute to economic changes

DR MOHAMMED Al Haddad, a sociology teacher at Kuwait University said that the large number of people who immigrate to Kuwait contribute to the changes in economic and social conditions in the country.

Speaking at a lecture organised by the Sociologists Society, Al Haddad said the economic environment in Kuwait attracted people for work opportunities.

He explained that there was a direct relation between the tribal

organisation and the social structure and the natural environment of the desert forced beduins to move for economic reasons.

He said the structure of the modern state has significantly affected the tribal system, with loyalty to the tribe gradually shifting from the tribe to the state. He added that the tribal social organisation continued although they no longer find it necessary to move about.

Sheikh Khalifa visits Baghdad

BAGHDAD, April 12, (Kuna): The Prime Minister of Bahrain Sheikh Khalifa Ben Salman Al Khalifa arrived here today on a several-day official visit to Iraq. The official Iraqi News Agency INA said that the Bahraini Premier was welcomed at the Baghdad International Airport by the Vice-Chairman of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, Izzat Ibrahim.

Sheikh Khalifa is leading a high level delegation which includes Foreign Minister Sheikh Mubarak Ben Mubarak Al Khalifa, Information Minister Tariq Abdul-Rehman Al Moied and the Minister of Works, Electricity and Water Majid Al Jashi.

The Iraqi News Agency gave no further details.

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India concerned over escalation of foreign naval presence in Gulf

NEW DELHI, April 12. (Kuna): India feels that escalation of foreign naval presence in the Gulf has further exacerbated an already dangerous situation.

These views were presented in the annual report of Indian External Affairs Ministry released here today. It said India has consistently opposed an increase of naval presence of outside forces in the region.

The reports said India's good office continues to be available to Iran and Iraq to bring about negotiated settlement to the eight year old Gulf war.

It expressed concern over continuation of the war adding hopes of negotiated settlement of the war following the passage of the United Nations resolution 598.

India, however, affirmed that it enjoys cordial relations with both the warring nations.

"India's relations with Iran and Iraq remain warm and cordial despite the continuing conflict." A high level Indian delegation led by Parliament Speaker Balram Jakhar visited Tehran and Baghdad recently.

Referring to New Delhi's relations with the Middle East and North African nations, the reports mentioned that relations in the economic, political and cultural fields with countries of West Asia were further consolidated and diversified in the recent past.

Growing
Relations with the six nations of the Gulf Cooperation Council are excellent. These relations are characterised by an important economic dimension. Bilateral trade with the Gulf nations continued to increase during the 1978-88.

The presence of over 700,000

Indian workers show "our strong trade and commercial ties with the Gulf region."

Regarding ties with Egypt, the report said there is growing warmth in the bilateral ties. Regular high level exchanges on various matters of regional and bilateral interest also took place this year. An Egyptian parliamentary delegation visited India. A number of proposals for cooperation in science and technology, agriculture, industry and trade with Egypt are under consideration.

Similarly relations with Jordan have been given fillip. A close political dialogue was maintained with Jordan and efforts to enhance bilateral ties continued. The Indo-Jordanian committee on trade and commerce met in New Delhi last year to give a further boost to bilateral trade and commercial relations.

Oman and India to boost ties

MUSCAT, April 12. (Kuna): At the conclusion of Indian State Minister for External Affairs K. Natwar Singh's visit to the sultanate, a joint statement was issued yesterday evening, Oman News Agency reported.

The statement said that Natwar Singh the Indian Minister of State for External Affairs paid an official visit to the sultanate during the period 8th to 11th April.

During his visit the minister called on Sultan Qaboos Bin Said and delivered to him a written message from Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India relating to the bilateral relations between the two countries.

The visiting Indian Minister also held official talks with Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yousuf Bin

Alawi Bin Abdullah and with the senior officials in the sultanate. The talks centred on the historical relations between the two friendly countries and on ways of boosting and enhancing these relations.

The two sides also discussed regional and international issues of common concern. They expressed their deep apprehension over the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war and they stressed the necessity of bringing the war to an end.

Peace conference
With regard to the Middle East problem the two sides expressed their support for the convening of an international conference under the supervision of the United Nations with the aim of bringing peace to the

region. The two sides also discussed the situation in the Arab occupied territories and they expressed their commendation of the uprising of the people of Palestine in their claim for their lawful rights.

In addition the two sides discussed various other regional and international problems like the questions of Afghanistan and Kampuchea.

The discussions were held in an extremely friendly atmosphere.

Natwar Singh has extended an official invitation to Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs to visit India. The invitation has been gratefully accepted and the dates will be determined through diplomatic channels.

Evren calls for halting Gulf war

TURKISH President Kenan Evren yesterday called for halting the Gulf war and expressed support to the Palestinian uprising against the Israeli occupation.

In an interview with Kuwait Television, the Turkish president said "we have good relations with both Iraq and Iran."

He expressed grief over the continuation of the war which entered its eighth year, noting that his country has never spared efforts in this regard.

Evren reiterated his country's call for Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories since 1967, noting that the uprising will bear fruits likewise the Afghanistan struggle that is continuing for nine years now.

Clothing shops suffer slump

ALTHOUGH clothing shops in Kuwait saw a slump during the winter season, some merchants believe the last three months show some promise for the future market.

According to Kuwait's foreign trade statistics Kuwait's clothing imports totalled \$1,105 million for the period from 1980 to 1984. Women's clothing represents \$581 million of this total.

A trend in the market is the purchase of clothing from Turkey and Lebanon rather than the previous popular labels from Italy, France and Spain. The reason for the trend is obvious with clothing manufactured in Lebanon and Turkey selling at about half the cost of European imports. One merchant also explained that European fashions were not always appropriate for the more con-

servative Kuwaiti community.

Ghazwan Al Hafez, who deals only with men's clothing, said most shops in Kuwait suffered during this year's winter season. He explained that European clothing had increased about 60 per cent over last year's prices, adding that the exchange rate had an adverse influence on purchasing from European countries. He said that about 65 per cent of the clothing market was now from Asian countries.

Two killed in road accident

A 12-YEAR-OLD girl and a man died in traffic accidents yesterday.

There were 19 traffic accidents, with four taking place in the capital, three in Hawalli, six in Ahmadi and six in Jahra.



A number of Education Ministry officials attended the recognition ceremony honouring headmasters and headmistresses who had participated in the 4th exhibition of educational technologies.



A headmistress is presented a certificate of appreciation by Rasheed Al Hamad.

Headmasters, headmistresses honoured

RASHEED Al Hamad, the Assistant Education Undersecretary for development and planning, distributed certificates of appreciation to headmasters and headmistresses of Kuwaiti schools which participated in the 4th exhibition of educational technologies.

The festival was attended by the director of the educational technologies department Mohammed Al Humaidan and education ministry officials.

Mixed reaction over more self-service stations

THE policy of Kuwait National Petroleum Company to increase the number of self-service petrol filling stations has drawn various comments from the public.

Some people told a local newspaper that officials should arrange awareness programmes explaining the manner of operating petrol pumps.

Others said that self-service was not suitable for women drivers, adding that the pumps were easy to operate but they needed training.

One woman said she was afraid of spilling petrol on her clothes, if she had to fill the car herself.

Still other residents said they preferred service by attendants, pointing out that it was unfair to get rid of workers.

Motorists said that the intercom system at self-service stations was a good one, but would not serve the handicapped.

Help

The manager of Khaitan self-service petrol station, Ibrahim Mohammad, said the station had special labour to help the handicapped and women who could not operate pumps. He pointed out the intercom was also available to help those who could not fill their cars themselves.

A resident, Yousif Ibrahim Mahmoud, said that self-service stations were good and common in many advanced countries. He said he could not see the difference between them and the usual stations because he filled his car most of the time.

He said the new system would cut down manpower and it was reasonable to expect a reduction in the price of petrol.

A housewife, Maha Al Fwaidi, said she went to petrol station with attendants although there was a self-service station close to her house. She added that she could not operate the pump and took her husband to help her.

Training course on information

THE director of the National Information Centre at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, (KISR) Fayal Al Fraji, said that advances in information technology at international levels acted as a spur to the information industry and marketing of its products.

Speaking at a study course held by KISR, he said that information production and marketing of services were new matters that KISR was now studying.

The centre was also taking steps to train staff on information programmes management and implementation.

The course includes lectures, discussions and case studies to enhance definitions in this field. Specialists from technical, supervisory and implementation posts at the centre are taking part in the course.

Governor visits refinery project

THE Governor of Ahmadi, Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem, visited the Abdullah port refinery project and the industrial island on Monday morning.

He was received by the chairman of Kuwait National Petroleum Corporation, Ahmed Al Matar, deputy chairman Abdul Aziz Al Busairi, and a number of high officials.

The governor was given a brief explanation of the project and activities, and visited the control room of the refinery.

Ramadan expected on April 17

THE holy month of Ramadan will commence this year on April 17, Kuwait's well-known astronomer Dr Saleh Al Ojairi has said. He added that the moon would not be visible in Kuwait, but would be seen in other countries on the night before.

He expected the weather to be hot during Ramadan, with moderate wind in general, and the likelihood of rain and thunder-clouds at times. He added there could be lightning without rain during Ramadan this year.

Sheikh Sabah's message to Qatar

DOHA, April 12. (Kuna): Qatari Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Ahmed Bin Seif received a verbal message here today from Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed relating to the current situation in the region and bilateral relations. Qatari News Agency said that Kuwaiti Ambassador to Qatar Khalifa Husein Al Muttalim conveyed the message.

Delegations leave

HEADS of delegations of Senegal and Gabon yesterday left after taking part in meetings of the Bureau of the Fifth Islamic Conference and chairmen of the standing committees which concluded Monday night. They were seen off at the airport by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed as well as other officials.

Societies condemn hijack

THE Kuwait Olympic Committee (KOC) and two professional societies on Monday condemned the hijack of the Kuwaiti air plane, "Al-Jabrya", and backed government methods in handling the situation.

KOC said that with sorrow and regret youth sports in Kuwait followed up developments of the hijacked plane since last Tuesday and declared support to all government decisions over this issue.

The Kuwait Teachers Society denounced the terrorist seizure of the Kuwaiti plane currently grounded at the Cypriot airport of Larnaca for the eighth day.

It charged the hijackers of attempting to destabilise Kuwait but emphasised that Kuwait will remain loyal to its sublime principles.

The Kuwait Engineers Association expressed deep dismay over the air pirates' terrorist practices and announced full backing to all government steps in rejecting blackmail.

It asserted that Kuwait's steadfastness will never be harmed by the repeated terrorist attempts to free the convicted criminals.

University's academic charter

DR MUSTAFA Marafi, the Dean of Registration and Admissions at Kuwait University, said the university had established a committee which submitted recommendations yesterday regarding the university's academic charter.

The committee is made up of the Dean of Registration and Admissions, the Dean of Students, deans of various faculties and heads of the guidance offices.

Dr Maarafi said students who had received three warnings or those who had received two warnings and were expected to get their third this session form 45 per cent of the student body admitted after 1986. Students who have received two warnings and needed to get a B or better to pass will be given a third chance automatically. Students who receive a third warning at the end of this semester will have to wait until the summer break for action to be taken on their status.

New make up colours

ESTEE Lauder introduces The Signature Collection, "a collection that restructures the colour spectrum to reveal a new intensity of makeup, with formulas that not only add shading nuances that will astonish but also care for your skin. Bioplex, a unique complex of natural protectants that soothe, hydrate and protect, are also incorporated in to each component."

The new signature makeup colours and the cobalt blue compact are designed by Evelyn Lauder.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Iranian complicity in the hijack drama

KUWAIT newspapers yesterday charged Iran of complicity in the week-long drama of the commandeered Kuwaiti jet liner now grounded at Larnaca airport, and urged the government not to cave in to the hijackers' demands whatever the price.

The daily Al Rai Al Aam said the ordeal has shown an ugly collusion among the Lebanese hijackers and Iranian authorities when the Bangkok to Kuwait plane was forced to change routes and head for Mashhad in northeast Iran.

The paper added that the air pirates acquired pistols, explosives and machineguns in Mashhad, and the aircraft was refuelled despite opposition from Kuwait Foreign Ministry trouble-shooting team which went to the remote Iranian city.

And the paper charged that Iranian officials were inhospitable to the Kuwaiti negotiating team and prevented them from disembarking from the plane that took them to Mashhad.

"It is indeed tragic that innocent Muslims are being slaughtered at the hands of a band of terrorists alleging to operate under the banner of Islam," the daily stressed.

In an editorial laced with sarcasm, the daily Al Anba called on Arab governments to reconsider their relations with Iran in view of Iranian hostilities against Kuwait and subversive acts in other parts of the Arab nation, chiefly Lebanon, over the past eight years.

"A reasonable stance towards Iran had been required since eight years ago. Would Arabs soon realise the facts and act accordingly?" questioned the paper.

The daily praised the humanitarian efforts of Cypriot authorities "whose Christian values mirrored in their noble behaviour in the ordeal, which was much better than the conduct of many of our neighbours who claim to follow Islam."

Daily Al Qabas, meanwhile, said the shooting to death of a second passenger on board the plane, in cold blood, underlined the need for some sort of action to spare the lives of the remaining hostages.

"We are in an unenviable position. Our brethren are held hostage under gunpoint. Their sole guilt is being the nationals of a state where law has the upper hand, and does not succumb to blackmail or intimidation," the newspaper noted.

Daily Al Watan said the gross slaughter by the air pirates of two Kuwaiti hostages on board the plane coincided with the deportation by Israeli authorities of a group of Palestinians from the occupied lands for resisting Israeli brutalities.

"This is the difference between the struggling sons of Palestine, and a handful of gun-toting cowards sowing murder and terrorism," the paper added.

Bahrain, UAE ministers to visit Cairo

CAIRO, April 12. (Kuna): Bahrain and UAE information ministers will visit Cairo in the near future, the Egyptian Information Minister, Safwat Al Sherif said here today.

Bahraini Minister Tareq Al Muayyed is due here some time next week while the UAE Information Minister, Ahmed Bin Hamed is expected to make the trip to Cairo after the holy month of Ramadan which begins next week, Al Sherif was quoted by the official Egyptian news agency Mena as saying.

The UAE and Bahrain restored diplomatic ties with Cairo after an Arab summit conference in Amman last November.

Bengali New Year's Day

On the occasion of Bengali New Year's Day 1395, Nijhar, a Bangladeshi cultural group has arranged a programme to hold a literary and cultural function at the Plaza Hotel on April 14, 1988 at 6.30 p.m. Admission with entry cards only.

Oteiba for Riyadh

ABU DHABI, April 12. (Kuna): UAE Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Murtadha Al Oteiba today headed for Riyadh on a short visit to Saudi Arabia. Al Oteiba announced prior to his departure, that he is carrying a message from UAE's President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan to Saudi monarch King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz on bilateral ties and issues of common interest.

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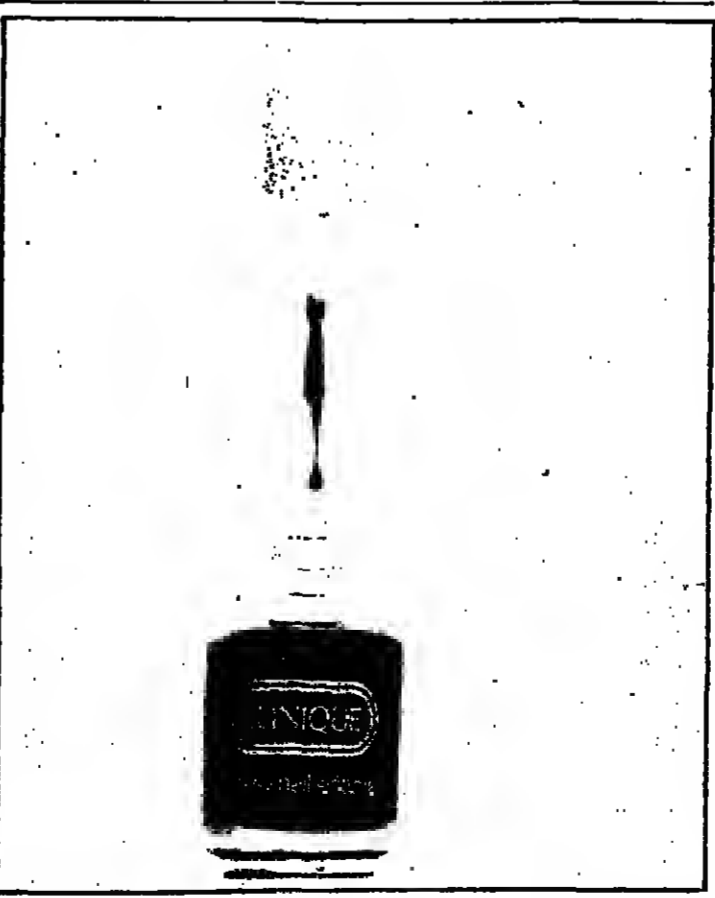
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WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Sultan Gallery

"The Islamic Heritage of Spain" is open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm at the Sultan Gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St.

National Museum

The Palestinian Uprising Exhibition at the National Museum has been extended to April 14. Thirty six painters are showing their work on the theme of the uprising. Proceeds of sales are for the Uprising Fund. Open daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, until April 14.

CINEMA

Yugoslav Cinema Week

The last film of the Introducing Yugoslav Cinema week is entitled "The Two Halves of the Heart" directed by Vefik Hadzismaj Lovic. It will be shown at 7.30 pm at the auditorium of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

British Council

High Rise Donkey, a children's film, will be shown at 6 pm tonight and tomorrow at 10.30 am at the British Council gallery in Mansouriyah. It is the story of three friends who smuggle an ancient donkey into a block of high rise flats.

Seminar on cinema

A seminar on cinema and its role in the media will be held on April 13 at 7 pm at the Graduates Society, near Kuwait Hilton and US embassy. A British-American film "Courage Along the Divide" a film on the Arab-Israeli conflict will be shown. Farouk Abdul Aziz, of the Cine Club, and Kuwait University professor Dr Ghanem Najjar will take part in the seminar. It has been jointly organised by the Cine Club, the Kuwaiti Women's Cultural Society and the Graduates Society.

SOCIAL

Bangladeshi get-together

A get-together and dinner party for all Bangladeshi computer professionals in Kuwait will be held on Friday, April 15, 8 pm, at Kuwait Hilton's terrace room. For information call 2411610, 7 am to 1 pm, or 4841748, 3 pm to 8 pm.

German-Speaking Cultural Association

The regular coffee morning is at the Hilton Hotel on April 13 (Wednesday), 10 am, in the Old Failaka Room. All German-speaking women are welcome.

Lecture at IAC

A well-known Indian surgeon Dr R.L. Bang will give a talk on "The Concept of Plastic Surgery for Laymen" at the Indian Arts Circle, Funaitics, at 6.30 pm on Thursday, April 14. For entry passes contact Shreyas Munshi - Tel: 2423521; 2423740; res. 4881581; Vijay Sharma off. 4747200; res. 2644663; Nair - 4713622.

SPORTS

Hockey Finals

Unity and Al Hilal Hockey Clubs play the finals for the Al Mulla - Mitsubishi Hockey Cup on Friday, April 15, 4.15 pm, at the KOC Hockey Ground, Ahmadi.

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.01 am
Zuhr	11.48
Asr	3.22 pm
Maghreb	6.14
Isha	7.34

Al Andalus
Tough Busters
Al Salmiya
Night Stick
Al Hamra
The Aviator
Starring: Christopher Reeve
Drive-In
Al Mar'at Wai Kanoon
(Arabic)
Starring: Sherihan, Farouk Fishawi, Magda Khateeb
Al Firdous
Pyaar Ki Jeet (Hindi)
Starring: Shashi Kapoor, Rekha
Bahadur Open-Air
Insaaf Ki Pukaar (Hindi)
Al Fahad
Al Rajul Yahub Marratain
(Arabic)
Al Jahra
Desperately Seeking Suzan
Granada
Closed for PLO Meeting
Salaibikhat
Ithente Neethi (Malayalam)
Al Jeeb
Rage of Honour
Ahmadi Drive-In
Zaman Hatem Zahran
(Arabic)

VIDEO CORNER

'I spy a gripping formula'

By Gail Seery

NOWHERE to Hide is really an appalling video. Not being a fan of gory films, and loathing those which include too much gratuitous violence, I found the story just a little too unpleasant to tolerate. The plot itself is flimsy - take away the deaths and it would fill a happy five minutes. Or else there is some sort of battle between the actors and the director - clearly there is a bonus for any member of cast left alive at the end of the film.

Still, the formula worked for Shakespeare, who was quite happy to slaughter his dramatic personae, and I have to admit that at times this video is both gripping and compelling.

The story centres around a military marriage. The husband gets gunned down by assassins in front of his pre-school age son, but the wife, played by Amy Madigan, finds herself treated as if she is the guilty one by his fellow officers.

and there are very vague allegations of spying.

Not surprisingly, the child is traumatised by events, and spends most of his time on screen not co-operating with his increasingly frantic mother. Amy Madigan puts up what would be a heart-rending performance of a grieving mother at her wits end trying to cope with her small son, if it weren't for one thing. Because the whole story is so much over the top, with the plot running from crisis to crisis (and "crisis" in this context means "particularly gruesome death"), the little pockets of genuinely good screen play are lost in a morass of violence.

It seems that the assassins are not content with the husband's death, and are now out to annihilate the entire family. Everywhere she runs, she is relentlessly pursued, at first by her husband's assassins, and then, after she has disposed of them with remarkable ease, by upwards of twenty nasty soldiers.

Of course, the traumatised

son doesn't make life easier. He is in any case carrying what the soldiers are chasing, a "helicopter ring" which is so convincingly fixed to his favourite toy robot that on the one hand his mother doesn't notice it's there, and on the other, it keeps dropping off so that their escape attempts are punctuated with his dashes to regain it. Naturally the viewer is in on the secret.

To make his presence in the secret hideout even less desirable is his nasty little tendency of picking up bombing beacons and hiding them about his person, sleeping with them under his pillow, and generally behaving like a security threat. Personally I find the idea that a tracking device has a little red light that blips on and off a little tedious, as is the notion that a three year old is likely to manage to keep anything secret long enough to enable the military to move in.

The formula is simple. All the good guys get killed unless they are wet. When the wet good

guys wake up and realise that they are behaving like bad guys they suddenly become capable of great acts of military heroism.

There is a happy ending: mother and boy survive, as does one of the killer Dobermans, who not altogether surprisingly given the verisimilitude of the rest of the film, turns out to be quite a nice dog really, dining on children. Everyone else either opts out or gets killed - if you find that idea appealing then give this film a try. Otherwise leave it well alone.

On another level it is interesting that the only strong and well drawn character in the film is the mother. Her own bravery is unquestioned throughout. It is unusual to have this type of female character in run of the mill films like this one unless her role is directly as an adjunct to that of a more important, male character. Amy Madigan manages to play the hulk of the story with a look of fraught terror on her face, but even so she is thoroughly convincing.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Tan Tan: "Rahlat Al Qamar" Cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 World News via Satellite
- 4.25 Wa Ma'tasmab: Arabic serial, featuring Siha Salem, Sami Qafan, Hina Mohammad
- 5.15 Bain Al Ams Wa Al Youm: Between Yesterday and Today. Fatima Al Tqy hosts the show
- 6.10 Songs
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 With Students

NIGHT CHEMIST

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Saadah Pharmacy
nr. Tawari Mosque, Othman St.
Fahad and Ahmadi
Al Ahmadi Pharmacy
Souk Ahmadi
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Souk

- 7.45 Trading: local show
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Difa'a Yashum: Arabic serial, starring Mustafa Fahmi, Imran Al Toqi, Samir Hussein, Mohammad Wafiq
- 10.50 Music Studio: a variety show featuring popular Arab performers
- 11.45 News Summary
- 11.50 World News via Satellite
- 12.25 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Adventures of

Kuwait
Al Madinah Pharmacy
Abdullah Mubarak St.
Al Baghdad Pharmacy
Abdullah Al Salem St.
Khaiteh
Al Tawfiq Pharmacy
Raja'an Commercial Centre, South St.
Salmiya and Rumaythiya
Al Fida Pharmacy
Ahmed Jarallah Bldg., Khansa St.

- Gummi Bears: cartoons
- 6.30 The Micro at Work: computers and office equipment
- 7.00 Fairy Tale Theatre: another fable about a princess who is banished by her step-mother
- 7.30 Growing Pains: "The Kid." On the eve of a special family occasion, Ben brings home an orphan, upsetting the family's plans.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 J.J. Starbuck: detective series with a millionaire fighting crime
- 9.30 "Inflight Movie": "Sledge Hammer: The Colour of Hammer." Sledge is asked to find the man who killed a judge
- 10.30 Falcon Crest: Richard Channing plans to destroy Angela. Melissa goes with Frank on a treasure hunt; and Maggie tries to make her marriage work
- 12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

In the mood for nostalgia

THE House on Carroll Street is a romantic thriller set in 1951 about an idealist who uncovers a dangerous plot to smuggle Nazi war criminals into the United States. The film stars Kelly McGillis, Jeff Daniels and Mandy Patinkin. Another fine performance from Kelly McGillis, most of whose films are banned here in Kuwait. So don't miss this opportunity of seeing this fine young actress, who plays a young woman who works for a magazine, but finds that her liberal ideals are too much for a Senate Investigative Committee and for her Editor.

Out of work, she applies for a job with an elderly lady who lives on Carroll Street. There she meets a young man who seems to be in trouble and offers to help by introducing him to a lawyer she knows. However, on the way there he is brutally murdered. As she is taken to a sympathetic FBI man, who is at first rather sceptical but after an attempt on her life, becomes convinced and decides to help her try to unravel the mystery of what is happening at The House on Carroll Street.

There seem to be a lot of films set during the 40s and 50s coming out of Hollywood recently, they must be far enough behind us to become nostalgic about. In The Mood is based on the true life events of Ellwood "Sonny" Wisecarver, a likeable naive 15-year-old Southern California boy, who elopes with two "older" women in succession and causes a national media event in 1944 when they are arrested for kidnapping. If the movie makes any kind of point, it is merely that life has changed from the simpler black-and-white days of World War 2. Now, Wisecarver's exploits might pass unnoticed. Then, though, he shared the front page with Hitler.

The major asset of the film is its cast. If the chemistry between Sonny and the women wasn't there - or if the relationships seemed incoherent - the story wouldn't work. But director Phil Alden Robinson develops them as individuals, not just the hypodermis of media-hype. Dempsey is perfect as Sonny: sweet and vulnerable. Talia Balsam and Beverly D'Angelo as his paramours bring just the right amounts of hittersweet humour to the roles.



Kelly McGillis in The House on Carroll Street.

With Hearts On the Sleeve on to a rock-drama starring Fiona and Bob Dylan. Fiona plays a feisty girl singer who works as a Pennsylvania toll-booth attendant by day, she is spotted by retired veteran rock idol Billy Parker (Bob Dylan) and bops his coat-tails for a series of "oldie" concerts in London where she is allowed to display her own virtuosity. The platonic twosome then get sucked into the extravagant lifestyle of a younger (if equally reclusive) English pop star James Colt (Rupert Everett) who's suffering a sort of rock-hick.

After some tender loving care administered by the toothsome Molly, his creative juices are unblocked and together they decide to go gigging in the States. Billy meanwhile, sickened that fame for his protégé seems to be getting out of hand, opts for obscurity again on his chicken farm. After a loony fan hurls her own brains out in his presence, James, too, disappears from sight. But, back in her home town, Molly is helped onto stage by - guess who? - Billy and James. Now she must choose between the two men. Or will career come first?

Basketball continues with Maryland vs N.C. state and Wildcats vs Beavers. The Lipton tennis finals have arrived and there are new MTV and Top of the Pops.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Safeway, Farwaniya; Video Nauf, Salmiya, Tel: 2432809; and Video Club, Salmiya, Tel: 5724372.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

It is not enough to help the feeble up, but to support him
— William Shakespeare, English playwright (1564-1616).

OPINION

Punishment awaits the butchers

IN the last sentence of one of their recent statements, the hijackers said they were going to join the "houri" (virgins) of Paradise. This is under the assumption that since the hijackers belong to the Hezbollah, they have not enjoyed the women of earth, so the bouris await them in the other life to clean their hands marred by the blood of their victims.

These devils dare to think that the virgins of paradise could be made of such criminals as they, who did not even respect the bodies of the dead, but threw them from the door of the plane in an inhuman way.

Those who watched this act, shuddered at the cruelty. Had there not been hostages to consider, these criminals would have been punished by those who witnessed this brutality. And instead of finding hours waiting for them in the other life, they would have found severe punishment for what they have done.

Seeing bodies thrown from a plane by hijackers reminds us of a savage life before mankind was introduced to civilisation or to religions, which were concluded by Islam.

Those who planned this operation will be written in history as the worst criminals and will be severely punished. Those who disrupt the lives and threaten the security of people will not last long, even though they may think they are clever.

Seeing bodies thrown from the hijacked plane may not have bothered the rulers of Iran since they are accustomed to such things. They throw their people alive in front of the Iraqi Army in a war that has no reason or aim.

Iranian leaders are accustomed to throwing away the lives of people; they won't be affected by the tossing away a dead body.

This ugly incident of throwing, from the plane, the bodies of the two Kuwaiti hostages, killed by the enemies of Allah, wrongly named Hezbollah, will remain a stigma on those in Tehran who appear to be more human butchers than human beings.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

As the Gulf war rages on

Shortages and death take their toll

By Tim Hodlin

TEHRAN: There is snow on the mountains overlooking Tehran, but, so far, it's been a mild winter. Even so, the streets are a sea of jackets — green combat jackets.

Everyone listens to car radios. Victories are announced in northern Iraq. "Only the Kurds," shrugs a middle-aged man and hurries off to hunt for a bargain on the open market. Eight years into the war, things are tight. Rationing of staple goods has kept the masses fed, but the open market is very expensive.

Meat costs 20 times the official \$4 per kilo (2.2 pounds), but bread is still cheap at 20 cents. Rationing, shortages, and death have taken their toll. The mass of the people are tired, but do not want their eight years of suffering to be wasted.

Yet there is movement toward peace. The United Nations cease-fire resolution might be accepted. The President of Iran, Ali Khamenei, outlines the Iranian position in an interview at the presidential palace.

"The main issue in our view is to prevent aggression in the region by defining who the aggressor is, and punishing him. We know if it's determined who the aggressor is, it's very important for the future of Iran and Iraq, and there won't be any further aggression in the future. This is why we are so persistent in determining who started the war."

Criticism

Peace on any other terms would make a mockery of the hundreds of thousands of deaths. It would release a tidal wave of criticism that might threaten the Islamic revolution itself.

The President is optimistic. "With God's will, if any peace is established, many of our problems will be solved. The war consumes a major share of our resources, and all these resources could be used in a wide-ranging reconstruction after the war. On the contrary, we believe that peace will not create any problems, but eliminate them."

Despite the war, political debate goes on. There's a surprising openness of criticism of the government. Everyone moans about inflation. Most men wear beards cropped in imitation of the Holy Prophet and his early followers. A bare chin means mild dissent. A bare chin and a tie is almost a political statement.

The Ayatollah Khomeini's new pronouncements about his role as Velayat-e-faqih ("supreme Islamic judge") have tested many a conservative clergyman. Traditionalists are not happy that "Imam" Khomeini has pronounced this Islamic government as "just."

That role, according to the conservatives, can only be taken by the "missing Imam," the twelfth of the blood relatives of the Holy Prophet who, according to Islamic theology, will return at the end of the world to bring true justice.

Controversy

The president is careful when asked about the controversy. "We have a good constitution, but that doesn't mean it is perfect. After the passage of years, all constitutions show their weaknesses. We have found our weak points and hope to clarify them at the appropriate time."

Even the middle-class Iranian on a fixed civil-service salary spends most of his time speculating about the future of "Islamic" Iran.

He does not see the restoration of the ousted monarchy as remotely possible, but does miss the wealth and possibilities of the 1970s. Frightened of the principal opposition group, the People's Mujahedin, based in Baghdad, he sees them as traitors and shares the official government revulsion at an eight-year-old terror campaign that has cost the regime an estimated 15,000 dead.

The intelligentsia are cynical about the West and its role in the Gulf war.

"Only when you suffer just a little bit, do you do anything about the war," said one western-educated graduate.

It was an attitude reflected by the officers and men on the Babalan, a British-built, Iranian frigate in the Gulf.

As the first Western journalist allowed on any Iranian vessel, I spent four days patrolling the Strait of Hormuz. We ran alongside an American frigate and watched each other carefully for three hours. We stopped two ships to search for illegal contraband. For the Iranians it was all routine.

No one can possibly guess what will happen next in the Gulf. The Iranians know only too well that overnight, all analyses, expectations, and planning could suddenly evaporate. And the war goes on.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

Uprising will not fizzle out

Palestinians unite for survival and rebellion

By John Rice

EL BIREH, Occupied West Bank, (AP): A web of unity has spread through the occupied lands in four months of violence, drawing Palestinians into committees for everything from tending emergency gardens to running the rebellion.

"I think the idea is that this uprising is going to go on a long time," said Mubarak Awad, an Arab-American who promotes creation of civic action groups.

Boys and businessmen of this middle-class town turned the earth of a vacant lot this week and planted squash, tomatoes and cucumbers so their neighbourhood could have fresh produce during curfews imposed by the Israeli Army.

Last month in Arura village, an Associated Press reporter spoke with young Arabs who stood midnight watch to warn of approaching soldiers.

Nurses who got through an

Army blockade of occupied Jerusalem's Shufat refugee camp in February said health workers had formed a loose network that could risk aid to areas where Palestinians clashed with soldiers.

"There are medical committees, agricultural committees, defence committees," said Saeb Erakat, political science professor at Al Najah University.

Strikes

"Many of these committees work in the open," and more secret groups organise strikes, protests and political activities in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, he said.

Erakat said the young leaders of secret groups generally are affiliated with factions of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"They may be new faces, but they will be new faces of leadership of the PLO," he said. "These are leaders who have become leaders because they are doing

something to attack the occupation."

An underground network of PLO-affiliated leaders has shown its strength by demanding, and getting, mass resignations of Arab policemen in the occupied territories and nearly universal acceptance of commercial strikes.

Israel's attempt to crush the leadership with mass arrests has not stopped the clandestine leaflets.

Communique No. 11 told Arabs to boycott institutions linked to Israel and form "popular committees in every place, in city, village, camp and street."

Leaflets urge people to "cultivate the land" increase self-reliance, police themselves in the absence of Arab policemen and start local manufacturing operations to lessen dependence on the Israeli economy.

Raja Shehadeh, a Palestinian lawyer, said neighbourhood groups had multiplied in tandem

with economic and social hardships created by the conflict that began Dec 9.

"I think it's happening a lot, especially for security and self-sufficiency," said Shehadeh, who leads a human rights group in Ramallah called Law in the Service of Man. "People are experiencing a siege."

Awad, the Arab-American head of the Centre for the Study of Non-violence in Jerusalem, said groups of 10 to 20 families have formed throughout the West Bank, with the largest numbers in Beit Sahur, Ramallah and Nablus.

Cultivate

"In Beit Jalla at Al Amal School, instead of having a playground for kids they cultivate ... beans, cucumbers, onions, tomatoes," he said.

"I think the idea is that this uprising is going to go on a long time and the Israelis are going to push hard ... the next step is to make the Palestinians feel hun-

gry." Arab strikes and Israeli restrictions have complicated deliveries of fresh produce, but canned and packaged goods are in ample supply and there is no evidence of hunger.

Many residents have stockpiled food. Others buy groceries from farmers or merchants' homes rather than shops. When fresh produce is available, Palestinians often cannot buy it because of curfews.

Omar, a businessman in El Bireh, said two dozen households in his neighbourhood formed a committee at the end of March, when the Army sealed off the occupied territories for three days. He said his four new hens had laid their first eggs.

Less than a week later, he joined six men and eight children in cultivating a vacant lot. While they worked, Army trucks rolled past shops that were closed for most of the previous week by a PLO ban on afternoon work and

Israel's refusal to let them open in the morning.

The businessman, who asked that his last name be withheld, said the committee also had decided to start first aid classes, form security patrols and build an emergency stock of food.

"We made a request to every house to buy a big bag of flour" and arranged to buy food from store owners even when their shops are closed, he said.

"People are now thinking of collecting wood for baking," Omar's wife said. Israel cut off supplies of fuel oil and gasoline two weeks ago.

Samir, another committee member, said the grassroots groups would be harder for Israel to handle than labour unions, social associations and schools.

"There is no infrastructure the Israelis can control," he said. "To put it down, they'll have to arrest everybody," and in that case "you're not succeeding. You've lost control."

Pretoria launches offensive against numerous opponents

By Greg Myre

JOHANNESBURG, (AP): The ruling National Party, faced with dwindling support among right-wing whites, has launched a strong political and military offensive aimed at its numerous opponents, both foreign and domestic.

In recent weeks, President P.W. Botha's government has effectively banned 18 opposition groups, arrested prominent clergymen, threatened and raided neighbouring countries in pursuit of alleged terrorists and challenged the United Nations to impose sanctions.

The hard-line actions have provided fresh ammunition to anti-apartheid activists abroad, and suggest the government has chosen to ignore virtually all its critics except conservative whites who feel Botha is capitulating to the nation's 26-million black majority.

So far, the tough posture has not worked politically. White voters opted for the staunchly pro-apartheid Conservative Party in three special parliamentary elections in March, and the conservatives appear headed for additional gains in October.

The setbacks led two pro-government newspapers to question the political prospects of the National Party and its vaguely defined reform proposals.

"There can be no survival without reform," the Citizen said. "But without providing the

whites with the security they crave, the National Party will have a tough time surviving."

"Numerous nationalists feel the road ahead should be more clearly spelled out," said Beeld, an Afrikaans-language daily. "We get the impression that (the ordinary man) now feels the NP has risen so high above him that it has completely lost contact."

The National Party says it seeks gradual race reform, with blacks gaining a voice in national politics but whites maintaining ultimate control. The conservatives oppose all concessions to blacks and seek to rescind reforms implemented in recent years.

Government opponents, including blacks, white liberals and foreign critics, say the reforms are totally inadequate. But their voices have largely been dismissed as irrelevant amidst the increasingly bitter debate between the Nationalists and the Conservatives.

Crackdown

Ironically, the government's crackdown began at a time when black unrest was at its lowest level in years. The forced sterilizations campaign was on the wane, and domestic opposition groups had been crippled by detentions and legal restrictions.

The government campaign began Feb 24, when authorities banned 18 leading anti-apartheid organisations from participating in politics and placed individual restrictions on more than a dozen activists.

Among developments since then:

● The Army raided a house in Gaborone, Botswana, on March 28, killing four people they said were African National Congress guerrillas.

● Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the 1984 Nobel peace prize winner, and 24 other clerics were arrested March 29 during a peaceful demonstration near parliament in Cape Town. Botha has on several occasions warned the clergy to avoid political confrontation.

● The government on March 21 shut down the New Nation newspaper for 12 weeks, saying it "incited revolution."

● South Africa's ambassador to the United Nations, Les Manley, told the Security Council to "do your damndest" and impose sanctions. A subsequent sanctions measure died because of vetoes from Britain and the United States.

Beyond the Botswana raid, six ANC officials have been killed in foreign countries this year. The most recent was Dulcie September, the ANC's representative to the United Nations in Paris, who was shot in Paris on March 30. South Africa has denied responsibility in the deaths, but reportedly has said it will offer other countries in pursuit of ANC members.

Political observers say the recent string of actions indicates the National Party now perceives the Conservatives as a genuine threat to the 40 years of its unbroken rule.

Liberal Slovenia stirs Prague Spring memories

By Andrej Gustincic

LJUBLJANA, Yugoslavia, (Reuters): Events in communist Yugoslavia's relatively liberal Slovenian republic stir memories of Czechoslovakia's "Prague Spring" of 20 years ago.

The open atmosphere in Slovenia has been likened to then Czechoslovak leader Alexander Dubcek's Democratic reforms in 1968, later crushed by a Soviet-led Warsaw Pact invasion.

The term "Slovenian Spring" was coined by Janez Stanovnik, winner of an unprecedented Western-style election campaign for regional president held here in March.

It has since been picked up by several magazines and has become a common expression in the area.

"Slovenia is swimming on the waves of new freedom," said Stanovnik, due to be proclaimed president of Slovenia by the regional parliament in May.

"There are parallels with the Prague Spring, a desire for communism with a human face," he said in an interview with Reuters.

The Prague Spring was marked by greater media freedom, open political debate, youth groups and a radical student press.

Exports

Slovenia borders Italy, Austria and Hungary. The Alpine republic, which has less than 10 per cent of Yugoslavia's 23 million people, accounts for 25 per cent of Yugoslav exports.

According to official figures its exports in 1987 were \$2.5 billion and per capita income was \$5,000, double the Yugoslav average.

Still, Slovenia has not escaped Yugoslavia's dire economic crisis, which includes triple-digit inflation, a \$21 billion debt and widespread strikes and insolvency.

Under the leadership of Milan Kucan, the Slovenian branch of the Communist Party has encouraged economic reforms, including boosting small-scale private enterprise, and an open-

ness in the media that has caused a rift with much of the rest of Yugoslavia.

But political analysts and some Slovenian politicians say the new openness has gathered a momentum that neither Slovenian leaders nor more conservative circles in Yugoslavia could have bargained for.

Attacked

Slovenian magazines have attacked once-taboo areas like the Army, the late leader Josip Broz Tito and the Socialist system, and have even called for counter-revolution.

A proliferation of youth movements criticising conscription and promoting everything from human rights to homosexual rights and Nazi-influenced art have left the rest of the country agast.

Striking workers have called for an opposition party and the regional capital Ljubljana has its own "speakers' corner" like that one in London, where people can publicly air their views.

But a conservative backlash is growing intense as federal state, party and military leaders condemn excesses by Slovenian media.

"Slovenia must carefully, step by step, think about what happened in Czechoslovakia 20 years ago," Stanovnik said.

"Through a series of careless moves, the Czechs paved the way for the liquidation of an unbelievable experiment."

Threats

Asked if he saw a similar peril for Slovenia, he said: "Such a danger always exists." But he said he saw no serious threats of intervention by the Yugoslav Army.

The security authorities intervened in 1971 against a nationalist outburst in Croatia, and the Army moved in against an Albanian nationalist uprising in Kosovo province in 1981.

There were also "purge" style interventions against liberal movements in various parts of Yugoslavia in the 1970s.

The official Slovenian youth magazine Mladina has been fiercely attacked in Yugoslavia over

the past two months for criticising arms sales to Ethiopia and calling Yugoslav Defence Minister Branko Mumula a "mercenary of death."

Indicted

Belgrade authorities overruled the Slovenian judiciary and indicted Franci Zavrl, Mladina's managing editor, for "damaging Yugoslavia's reputation," a criminal offence.

The Army has accused Slovenian media of waging a "special war" aimed at breaking up Yugoslavia, and has also criticised Slovenian leaders for not cracking down on such writing. The "special war" label is usually reserved for anti-Yugoslav groups abroad.

The Army is an integral part of Yugoslavia's political and economic system and has considerable influence.

Tension grows between China's military and civilian leaders

By Guy Dinmore

BEIJING, (Reuters): Tension between China's civilian and military leaders over expenditure and the future of the armed forces has been brought into the open by this year's meeting of parliament, Western analysts say.

Discussions during the National People's Congress by military delegates reflect their fear that defence is becoming a forgotten dimension in the state's priorities, a Western military academic said.

An officer in the general staff headquarters of the People's Liberation Army criticised those who said a mobilisation law was unnecessary in a time of peace.

"If this kind of thinking is shared by senior officials, that would be quite alarming," the unnamed officer said, according to the official New China News agency.

A Western diplomat said differences between military and government over allocation of national resources would be more acute in coming years, with civilian leaders under pressure to meet growing demands by a consumer-conscious public.

Diplomats noted that defence was 10th and last in a list of priorities presented by acting Premier Li Peng to the opening of congress on March 25. Agriculture was at the top.

"In recent years, China has been saying there will be no stability without agriculture, no vitality without commerce and no prosperity without industry and all of these are correct," General Chi Haotian, chief of the general staff, said.

"But the problem is that many people have not realised that there will be no security without the People's Liberation Army," China daily quoted the 58-year-old general as saying.

Diplomats said that, in public at least, Army leaders have refrained from attacking Li directly.

General Yang Shangkun, a close ally of top leader Deng Xiaoping on Friday, said he was pleased with Li's report, which summarised economic achievements while pointing out the government's mistakes.

Experience

"These criticisms may subtly reflect apprehension among some commanders over the rise of a new generation of civilian leaders with little experience or links with the military," said the Western academic, who asked not to be identified.

Li, expected to be confirmed as premier next week, is a 59-year-old Soviet-trained engineer with no military experience.

Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang, China's second most powerful man and groomed to succeed Deng, has had no day-to-day involvement with military affairs.

"Because the military has traditionally been an influential voice in the political process, military leaders fear they may become increasingly over-

looked," the academic said.

However, Zhao's promotion last year to first vice-chairman of the party's powerful central military commission reflects the need to cultivate the armed forces' patronage, he added.

Money, namely the state budget, has been the focus of fierce debate within the military.

"Military leaders have come to grime at this time of year" the academic said.

Fallen

He said defence spending as a proportion of the budget has fallen from a high of 17.5 per cent in 1979 to 8.2 per cent this year. In real terms, the drop is less, from 22.3 billion yuan (\$6 billion) to 21.5 billion yuan (\$3.8 billion).

This year saw a rise of about one billion yuan (270 million dollars) in the defence budget over 1987, however.

Western analysts said these figures do not include research and development which could add another 50 per cent.

Neither do the sums include the armed forces' own earnings from arms sales and civilian production which account for a significant proportion of spending.

China is believed to be the world's fifth-largest arms supplier and its recent sale of powerful, medium-range missiles to Saudi Arabia was criticised by the United States.

General Yang has warned colleagues that they cannot expect a big increase in the country's military budget, saying "it is absolutely necessary for the Army to engage in production and business operations" to raise their living standards.

Diplomats said the PLA has shed 1.5 million men in recent years although it is still the world's largest Army, with around three million soldiers.

Weapons

"What this means is that per soldier, more is being spent today than in the past, and money is being used to buy better weapons," the academic commented.

"From a financial point of view, the PLA rarely had it so good," said one military attaché.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1528 — Pope Clemente VII establishes commissions to determine validity of King Henry VIII's marriage to Catherine of Aragon in England.
- 1534 — Sir Thomas More refuses to take oath to succession.
- 1589 — Britain's Sir Francis Drake and Sir John Norris undertake expedition of 150 ships and 18,000 men to Portugal.
- 1598 — France's King Henry VI signs Edict of Nantes, granting large measure of religious liberty to Protestant Huguenots.
- 1605 — Theodore II succeeds as Tsar of Russia on death of his father Boris Godunov.
- 1772 — Warren Hastings is appointed governor of Bengal in India.
- 1796 — French forces under Napoleon Bonaparte defeat Austrians at Millesimo in northern Italy.
- 1848 — Sicily is declared independent of Naples.
- 1868 — British forces under Robert Napier capture Magdala in Ethiopia.
- 1909 — Army counter-revolution in Constantinople against rule of Mohammedan Union.
- 1954 — Cheddi Jagan, former prime minister, is sentenced, and British Guiana becomes a "proclaimed area."
- 1961 — UN General Assembly condemns apartheid.
- 1975 — Fighting rages in South Vietnam's Mekong Delta as communists press drive to take city of Xuan Loc.
- 1976 — Munitions plant explosion in Finland leaves 45 dead and 7 injured.
- 1986 — Stampede by Hindu pilgrims kills at least 46 people and injures 39 others at religious festival at banks of Ganges River northeast of New Delhi, India.
- 1987 — Lebanon's civil war enters its 13th year quietly during ceasefire enforced by Syrian troops.

AP/Wide World

Exhaust fumes give air pirates a restless night

LARNACA, Cyprus, April 12, (Reuters): Apparently defective machinery or a continued war of nerves gave hijackers a restless night aboard a Kuwaiti airliner at Larnaca, Cyprus, as their hostages suffered on into an eighth day today.

As the usually-calm hijacker spokesman muttered to himself on the radio while awaiting an answer, it was "the first time in four days" at Larnaca such as a series of overnight problems had occurred.

Trouble began at 10.25 pm (1925 GMT) last night when the English-speaking hijacker radioed the control tower to politely complain the troublesome air-conditioning was again not working properly.

The temperature in the Boeing 747, shared by an estimated 44 hostages with eight hijackers for a week, had soared from 15 degrees (59 Fahrenheit) to 35 degrees (95 Fahrenheit), he said.

Engineers were sent to adjust a mobile air-conditioning unit hooked up to the plane. After an hour of work, the tower said a new unit had to be refuelled, meaning 15 minutes without fresh air.

Choice

"Okay for me, I am patient," the hijacker said. "But regarding the passengers, I think they lost patience... it's okay, they have no choice."

"If you consider releasing any sick passengers, we will appreciate it," piped up the tower, reassuring him he did have a choice — to free the hostages he felt were suffering.

The hijacker answered that a sick passenger felt better after taking medicine.

"If it's heart trouble, it will be hard for him," the tower replied.

"Okay, sir, I will check. Thank you very much for your cooperation," said the hijacker, displaying the smooth politeness that marked many "routine" exchanges with the tower.

The new air-conditioner was pulled onto the tarmac at 15 minutes past midnight (2115 GMT on Tuesday). After 20 minutes, the hijacker radioed that fumes were coming into the aircraft.

"This is caustic gas," he said,

adding that hostages and hijackers were using oxygen bottles to help them breathe but some people had to go without as the oxygen sets were in short supply.

Exhaust

The engineers were sent back and said that they discovered the fumes came from the exhaust of the ground power generator near the air-conditioner and were being sucked into the cabin.

"There is no malicious game," the tower said, explaining that the tower power unit seemed to be too close to the air-conditioning intake and should be moved so the smoke would stop.

"It came by chance, special today," mused the hijacker.

The ground power unit was moved but the hijacker insisted on a replacement on the grounds it still produced too much smoke.

A new generator was sent for and the tower explained that it would run out of fuel in four hours and would have to be changed. "Okay, sir, they can bring it," the hijacker said.

The tower said that as there was no wind, the exhaust was not being blown away.

The flight engineer backed up the hijacker's complaints by advising the tower that smoke was entering the cockpit.

"We hope it clears shortly and we are sorry," he was told.

While engineers switched the machines, the plane was in darkness — something that alarms the hijackers who fear troops may attempt to storm the aircraft and rescue the hostages at night.

The generator was moved west and the air-conditioner east before engineers turned them on at 1.55 am (2255 GMT).

Move

"There is no wind so there is no chance that the exhaust will come in again," the tower radioed.

"Thank you very much," replied the hijacker, sounding tired but pleased things were in order.

"The engineer wants to move the air-conditioner a bit because he believes you will not get any more fumes," the tower announced minutes later. "He is free to move it," answered the hijacker.

At 2.40 am (2340 GMT), the hijacker radioed that there was a

new smell in the aircraft and oxygen was being used again.

The tower said the wind was now variable so engineers would have to come out to check the machines and perhaps reverse their positions beneath the plane. The hijacker suggested a seal was defective.

At 3 am (0000 GMT), the ground power unit was unplugged and the aircraft was again plunged into darkness while the engineers checked and then assured the hijacker that the seal was fine.

"The wind is changing all the time, variable, five to ten degrees," the control tower explained. "This is why this is."

The ground power unit was turned back on nine minutes later.

The tower asked whether the smell has gone. The hijacker told them to wait for two minutes. The tower asked if any engineer could come out to the plane to check the temperature of the air-conditioner.

"Inside (the plane)?," said the hijacker, sounding more and more irritated.

The tower radioed that the engineer only wanted to check if there was ice on the air-conditioner outside the aircraft.

"He's safe to come, he's free to come," the hijacker said.

By 4 am (0100 GMT), problems seemed to have eased and both sides said good night.

A hijacker climbed down the nosewheel of the plane causing alarm among airport ground staff.

Demand

The man with the gun worried engineers preparing to fix the air-conditioner and the control tower demanded assurances for their safety.

"They got a bit scared because they said 'well we are trying to help all these people'... do I have your assurance that nothing will happen to these people?"

"We are doing our routine checking," a hijacker replied.

"We mean it... it's clear and safe."

He said the tower should tell the air-conditioning engineers: "We appreciate their cooperation and we are not going to harm them."



Kuwaiti Minister Al Mazaid (right) being congratulated by a Cypriot official after the release of the 12 passengers. (Reuters wirephoto)

Arafat threatened

(Continued from Page 1)

second victim."

Arafat suggested on Monday that Iranian groups might also be involved.

Asked at a news conference yesterday if he was in touch with Tehran over the hijacking, he said: "That is a very difficult question. Please, I will not answer it. I am doing all my best to release the passengers."

A Kuwaiti daily newspaper reported yesterday that Arafat was negotiating with Iranian Muslim scholar Mohammed Taqideen Mudarresi, head of a group called Islamic Action Organisation which it said masterminded the hijacking.

When reporters pressed Arafat to elaborate on his contacts with the gunmen's leaders, he said: "I am not looking for headlines but for the safety of the passengers and the crew. Later I will speak of the whole operation."

Simple lunch for hostages

(Continued from Page 1)

And the omelette. Do you want ordinary omelette or cheese in it or what?

Hijacker: "Ordinary omelette."

A few minutes later the tower came back on the radio: "The omelette will be ready in about 30 minutes or 40 minutes. It will take this long to prepare them, okay?"

Hijacker: "Okay, no problem."

It was believed to be the first cooked meal ordered by the hijackers since they arrived at Larnaca on Friday night. They had previously eaten bread, cheese and cakes.

General killed

ISLAMABAD, April 12, (Reuters): Anti-communist guerrillas killed an Afghan Army general on his way to the capital Kabul, from a northern region, the official Kabul Radio said today.

It identified him as central military zone vice-general Commander Brigadier-General Shah Aga and said he was hurt in Kabul today with military honors.

Hang the terrorists, says Khaled's brother

(Continued from Page 1)

Kuwaitis and expatriates have expressed their solid backing of the Kuwait government's decisive stand on the hijacking issue.

Kuwait Radio was deluged yesterday with telephone calls from Kuwaitis and expatriates who all declared their total support of the stand taken by Kuwait in dealing with the hijackers.

The telephone calls were broadcast live over the air from early morning.

People expressed their anger and pain over the inhuman action of the callous hijackers in throwing out the bodies of the two Kuwaitis after killing them. They also expressed their admiration and support for the government's determination not to bow down to the hijacker's demands even if they continued killing.

Pretended

The callers stressed that the hijackers, who pretended to be fundamentalist Muslims, were anything but Muslims.

The callers said the people of Kuwait were ready for more sacrifices in order to keep Kuwait's dignity intact.

Meanwhile, societies, unions, federations, associations and other public bodies have all vowed support to the government in its handling of the hijacking. They issued statements condemning the hijacking of the plane.

and the taking of hostages, and praising and supporting the government's stand.

Reuter adds, Khaled's brother Ali said: "My brother's killing will never push Kuwait to agree to blackmail. We stand by the government in any measures it takes to ensure the hostages' safety."

"We ask for the execution of the three traitors."

The brother of the first victim, a 25-year-old border guard, also backed the government's tough line in rejecting any deal with the hijackers which would free the jailed militants.

Kuwaitis interviewed shared their view and some called for the execution of all 17 fundamentalists.

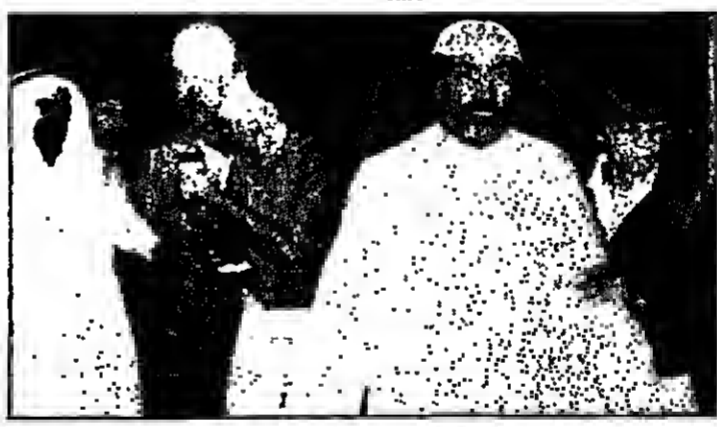
"The government should have executed all of them at the beginning," said Saud Al Saleh, 60, a merchant in the bustling souk (market).

Problems

"If it had, there would be no such problems. Their existence in Kuwait gives motivation to these criminals."

Diplomats say one reason why the Amir has not signed the three death warrants may be concern that Islamic fundamentalists in Lebanon will retaliate against their foreign hostages.

Saleh Malik, 50, a retired civil servant, said: "These people should all have been hanged on the same day they were convicted," he said.



Three passengers (above and below) being taken to the Larnaca Hospital. (Reuters wirephoto)



Plane heads for Algeria after hijackers free 12

(Continued from Page 1)

hijacked plane," he said.

Palestinian sources in Kuwait said Palestinian mediators at Larnaca airport in Cyprus had struck a deal with the hijackers for the release of 12 hostages in return for fuel to fly to Algeria to resume negotiations.

The plane was hijacked April 5 on a flight from Bangkok to Kuwait and initially touched down at Mashhad in northeast Iran, but left after three days.

Lebanese and Syrian authorities refused to allow it to land. The pilot frantically radioed he was running out of fuel, and the jumbo jet touched down at Larnaca after a seven-hour odyssey.

The hijackers have demanded the release of 17 Arab militants imprisoned in Kuwait for bombing offences there in December 1983. They said in a statement on the release of the hostages that

they had not given up their demand and would continue their journey.

A reporter at Algiers airport said there was no sign of special activity in preparation for the arrival of the hijacked plane.

Ayad Al Sabti adds: Mazidei praised the Cypriot government for their help and their contribution towards the release of the passengers.

He said: "We will be happy when the rest of the hostages are released."

The released passengers were eager to return to Kuwait.

They were told by Mazidei that they would be flown back as soon as their medical check-up was over.

One of the freed passengers, Ramadhan Mohammed Ateyah, who works in Australia, is in very bad condition. Ateyah said: "He needs a long rest."

Missile duel continues Iran sets ablaze Saudi tanker

MANAMA, April 12, (Agencies): Iranian gunboats, striking for the first time this month in the Gulf, attacked and set ablaze a Saudi Arabian tanker today near the Strait of Hormuz, salvage executives said.

An unidentified US warship was in contact with the 36,904-ton Sagheera after the attack, but salvage tugboats were meanwhile bringing the blaze under control and the tanker did not require any assistance, said the executives.

None of the crew members were injured in the attack.

The Iranians challenged the Sagheera by radio, demanding information on its cargo and destination, before the attack was carried out at about 1 pm (0900 GMT) off the emirate of Ras Al Khaimah in the southern Gulf.

Salvage

The Sagheera was sailing out of the waterway with fuel oil lifted from the Saudi oil terminal of Jubail.

The executives, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the tanker's bow was set on fire, but two salvage tugboats succeeded in extinguishing the blaze within two hours, the sources said.

The US warship asked if the Sagheera was in need of help and enquired about the attack, they said.

The Iranian gunboats, which have not raided any ships for 12 days, usually attack neutral vessels in the Gulf in retaliation for Iraqi raids on their tankers. They concentrate on Saudi or Kuwaiti vessels.

Some 500 ships of various nationalities have been attacked in the so-called "tanker war," an offshoot of the 7-1/2-year-old Iran-Iraq conflict. Some 300 seamen have been killed.

Meanwhile, Iraq sent a powerful missile crashing into a leprosarium in the northwest Iran city of Tabriz early today inflicting heavy casualties on patients amid reports of heavy fighting on the northern front.

Iraq fired its destructive, Soviet-made missile — which has a range of 800 miles (250-km) on Tabriz at 1.00 am, a military spokesman in Baghdad said.

Confirmed

Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency confirmed the Iraqi strike, saying the missile slammed into a leprosarium killing and wounding many patients.

"The Iraqi missile raid followed a heavy exchange of fire between the two countries yesterday after a three-day lull."

Iraq resumed the so-called "war of the cities" by slamming two missiles into Tehran and one into the historic central Iran city

of Isfahan.

Iran retaliated several hours later by sending two missiles crashing into residential quarters of Baghdad.

Both sides reported heavy casualties and material damage in yesterday's attacks. Iran said at least 20 people, including women and children, were killed instantly when the Iraqi missiles crushed their homes. Iraq did not immediately provide accurate casualty figures.

Iran said its forces launched a new offensive early today on Iraqi Kurdistan, taking many enemy prisoners.

Eighteen hours into the offensive, it said heavy fighting was still raging after the Iranians had captured 12 square kilometres (12 sq. miles) of Iraqi territory, including "strategic heights" and several villages and beat off five counterattacks.

Assault

The official Iraqi news agency quoted a military spokesman as saying the two-division Iranian assault was "completely crushed, with 6,000 men killed or wounded."

"Many were captured while the others fled," the unidentified spokesman was quoted as saying. "The enemy failed to capture a single inch of land."

It said helicopter gunships flew 136 combat missions, indicating a sizeable engagement.

Baghdad has admitted losing territory around Lake Darbandikhan, where the Iranians say they are threatening a hydroelectric dam that supplies much of the power for the region as well as Baghdad 120 miles (190 kilometres) to the southwest.

Ready

At the United Nations, Iraqi Deputy Foreign Minister Wisam Zahawi said yesterday his country is ready to carry out the nine-month-old UN ceasefire proposal to end the Gulf war as soon as Iran gives its "unequivocal, clearcut, official acceptance."

Zahawi spoke to reporters following an initial one-hour meeting with Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in the latest UN-supervised effort to end the 7-1/2-year-old war.

Earlier yesterday, Iran renewed its call for immediate action by the UN Security Council to stop Iraq's use of chemical warfare.

The acting head of Iran's UN mission, Mohammad Jaafar Mahallati, said one measure the 15-nation council would take is impose a ban on shipments of chemical agents to Iraq from countries in Western Europe.

Sabotage not ruled out ...

(Continued from Page 1)

which is situated in a built-up area near Islamabad and its twin city Rawalpindi.

Mahmud said an investigation ordered by Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo would cover "all aspects of the ... incident, including the possibility of sabotage."

An unexploded rocket lying in a Rawalpindi neighbourhood went off today but caused no damage, witnesses said.

Responsible

The Los Angeles Times reported today that agents from the pro-Soviet government in Afghanistan were apparently responsible for Sunday's explosion.

The newspaper, quoting unidentified sources, said Pakistani military experts had told US officials about the cause of the blast.

The explosion was caused by three incendiary devices carried to the ammunition dump by trucks bearing Afghan licence

plates and equipped with time fuses, the Times said. They were exploded in sequence, the newspaper said.

Unidentified US sources told the newspaper the explosions wiped out a major source of CIA-supplied tactical assault weapons for resistance fighters battling the Soviet-backed government in Afghanistan.

A four-man US team of bomb disposal experts is helping to clear the unexploded ammunition, including some which fell on the residences of US embassy personnel and the international school.

Pakistani authorities have in the past blamed the Afghan government for bomb explosions which have killed more than 250 people since the beginning of 1987. Kabul denies the charges.

In an unusual gesture, Afghan President Najibullah on Monday sent a message of "deep grief and sorrow" to Zia and called the incident tragic.

Arafat denies Soviets put pressure

PALESTINIAN leader Yasser Arafat denied yesterday that Moscow had asked him to recognise Israel.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda reported on Sunday that Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev told Arafat in Moscow last week that Palestinian recognition of Israel was essential for Middle East peace.

"That is not correct," Arafat said at a news conference in Kuwait. "What he said was: the Palestinian people have a right to self-determination like the Israeli people and have the right to form an independent state ..."

Ershad lifts emergency

(Continued from Page 1)

He imposed night curfews for several weeks in five key Bangladeshi cities, including the capital, Dhaka.

He has refused to step down and has survived 27 strikes since November which the government says have cost \$50 million in lost output.

Over 140,000 Thais work in S. Arabia, Qatar

BANGKOK, April 12, (Xinhua): A Thai government official was quoted by "The Nation" as saying that about 140,000 Thai workers are employed in Saudi Arabia while about 4,000 Thai work in Qatar.

The official who recently visited Thai workers in many Arab countries said the poor command of English language has put most Thais working there at disadvantage in comparison with labourers from other Asian countries such as India and Bangladesh.

However, he said, there is still a demand for Thai workers in Middle East countries.

Hijacking will haunt victims for years

By Claudia Rader

LONDON, April 12, (Reuters): Hostages imprisoned aboard a hijacked Kuwaiti airliner in Cyprus are experiencing huge mental and emotional stress which could haunt them for years, experts said today as the siege entered its second week.

The hijackers have executed two Kuwaiti passengers — some 44 others remain on board — after their demands for refuelling went unmet.

They have said the Boeing 747 is wired with explosives and early today donned their death shrouds in preparation for martyrdom.

"The stress on the passengers is colossal, their total state of health and morale must be very low indeed," said Paul Wilkinson, head of the department of politics at Aberdeen University and a specialist in terrorism.

Dumped

"To know that two of your number has been taken and dumped out of the plane after being murdered in cold blood they must all wonder if their number is up next."

Their real sickness is a feeling of despair at not knowing how you can possibly escape from this ghastly situation. These hijackers are very sophisticated and use their violence in very organised ways which must create enormous strains and fear on the part of the hostages," Wilkinson said.

On Saturday the hijackers shot dead an off-duty Kuwaiti guard. His body, bearing signs of torture, was thrown off the plane. A second hostage was shot dead on Monday and his body tossed with a blood-soaked hood over its head on to the tarmac.

Some passengers are reported to have been beaten.

"The inability to help, to have to stand by while others are being tortured is often the most unbearable kind of torture — it produces feelings of guilt, loss of self-esteem. One's own helplessness in the face of such cruelty is very difficult," said Helen Bamber, director of the London-based Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture.

Survived

Experts said the hostages were likely to have long-term emotional reactions if they survived their ordeal. Friends and relatives could also be traumatised.

"People suffer intrusive thoughts and may have depression, anxiety, become withdrawn. Vivid flashbacks — almost as though they were reliving the

experience — will stay with them for a long time," said consultant psychologist Stuart Turner, who works with the medical foundation.

John Testrake, captain of a TWA plane grounded for 16 days in Beirut in June 1985 by two Lebanese Shiite Muslim gunmen — the longest hijacking to date — said part of the hostages' strain was the dramatic mood changes of their captors.

"You never knew when they were going to swing from one extreme to the other. At one moment they would be absolutely murderous and yet in the wink of an eye they could change to the most compassionate, caring, sensitive human beings you could imagine," he said.

Hijacking experts said many former hostages dealt with the stress by keeping their minds busy, trying to gather information about their situation by listening, scrutinising their captors' behaviours and studying events outside through aircraft windows.

Swedish psychiatrist Tom Lundin said gruesome conditions aboard the plane such as beat, malfunctioning toilets and lack of food could be an advantage for the hostages.

"It can be a relief to be pressured by other factors than the immediate threat of dying. You think of hunger instead of death," said Lundin, a specialist in the psychiatry of disaster victims.

Panic

But he said the hostages were sooner or later likely to be struck by panic.

"At that stage they will be past caring about the consequences. They may do something foolish like trying to break out or threatening the hijackers," said Lundin, of the Akademiska hospital in the university town of Uppsala.

He said complete resignation or attempts to make friends and identify with the hijackers were likely reactions among hostages trying to endure such an ordeal.

Some hostages report having developed unintentional bonds with their captors — a mechanism known as the Stockholm Syndrome — which helped lessen their fear and uncertainty.

But Wilkinson said: "In this case you have such an organised, ruthless group that I suspect they've guarded against this by being aloof, distancing themselves, preventing the humanising effect from setting in which would inhibit them from violence."

4 Kuwaitis among 12

(Continued from Page 1)

"This prevented us from looking at each other. The hijackers didn't give us enough food," he added.

The 12 freed hostages said they were not mistreated during the eight-day ordeal and were unaware that two fellow passengers were killed.

"We were not beaten. We were not harassed. They treated us very nicely," Shari Mamdouh Badrawi said as he sat barefoot on a bed in Larnaca general hospital, just hours after his release.

"I didn't see them harming anyone," said the ticketing agent in Cairo for Kuwait Airways.

Mohammed Kamel Al Sayed Rouhani, a 32-year-old Egyptian who works for Kuwait Airways in catering, also said the captives were treated well.

General killed

ISLAMABAD, April 12, (Reuters): Anti-communist guerrillas killed an Afghan Army general on his way to the capital Kabul, from a northern region, the official Kabul Radio said today.

It identified him as central military zone vice-general Commander Brigadier-General Shah Aga and said he was hurt in Kabul today with military honors.

More states support Kuwait's firm stand

DAMASCUS, April 12, (Agencies): Syrian President Hafez Al Assad said today he would make every effort to save the lives of some 44 hostages on board the hijacked Kuwaiti plane.

Officials said he made the pledge during a telephone call with HH the Amir of Kuwait about the crisis.

"We in Syria exerted efforts from the first day of the hijack and we will continue our efforts and do everything possible to save the innocent whose lives are being lost without any justice," they quoted him as saying.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said today Kuwait and Cyprus were right not to give in to the demands of hijackers.

Thatcher told Parliament: "We are very glad that with regard to the Kuwaiti hijacking the United Kingdom passengers were released but hostage-taking of this kind affects all countries and we have strong sympathy for the Kuwaitis and Cypriots in dealing with the problem and full support for the line which they are taking."

She added: "Of course we fight terrorism in every way we can."

Horror

United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar yesterday expressed horror at the murder of two passengers aboard the hijacked plane.

"The secretary-general has learned with horror that two of the passengers aboard the hijacked Kuwaiti aircraft have been murdered and the lives of

the other passengers are being threatened," he said in a statement issued through a spokesman.

CINEMA

Michael Douglas, Cher are named best actor, actress

The Last Emperor sweeps Oscars with nine awards

By Ronald Clarke

LOS ANGELES, [Reuters]: The Last Emperor, Italian Director Bernardo Bertolucci's spectacular look at China, has won nine Oscars, including best picture, sweeping all categories in which it was nominated for Hollywood's coveted statuette.

Ex-pop star Cher and Michael Douglas took the top acting awards at the 60th annual academy award presentations, while Scotsman Sean Connery and Greek-American actress Olympia Dukakis won for their best supporting roles.

But the night belonged to Bertolucci, whose film, which tells of China coming into the 20th century as seen through the eyes of Pu Yi, who went from emperor to gardener, won every award for which it was nominated, including best director.

"I want to thank the Chinese," a happy Bertolucci declared.

The spectacular Cher, once part of the singing duo of Sonny and Cher, who started taking acting lessons only eight years ago, received a standing ovation from the star-studded audience when she accepted her Oscar.

She won for her portrayal of a New York Italian widow who is reawakened by a love for her fiancé's brother in Moonstruck.

"I don't think this means I am somebody, but I guess I'm on my way," declared Cher, who had forsaken her trademark thigh-high boots and flimsy dresses for a black gown with a sparkling silver bodice.

"I just want to go home and eat pizza," she told reporters.

Moonstruck also won two other Oscars, for John Patrick Shanley's best original screenplay and for Olympia Dukakis, who played Cher's strong but saddened mother.

Douglas, 42, a member of one of Hollywood's most famous families, was named



Cher (left) and Michael Douglas with their Oscar for best actress and best actor which they won for their roles in 'Moonstruck' and 'Wall Street' at the 60th academy awards in Hollywood.

best actor for his first role as a villain, the ruthless stock manipulator Gordon Gekko in Wall Street.

A member of the Hollywood elite who can demand five million dollars for a film, Douglas said of his father, Kirk, who has still to win an Oscar: "He is out here tonight, he is too nervous. I really and truly share this with him. He allowed me to step out of his shadow."

Asked how his award compared with winning his only other Oscar, as producer of One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Douglas replied: "This means a lot more."

Connery, the star of seven James Bond films beginning some 25 years ago, won for his role of a feisty Irish cop who helps destroy gangster Al Capone in The Untouchables.

"I first came here 30 years

The tributes and jubilation came in the midst of a scriptwriters strike which has held up production of films and television programmes — and forced more ad-libbing than usual in the Oscar show at the shrine auditorium.

"If such a thing as a wish accompanied this award, mine would be to end the writers' strike," the bearded Connery told a cheering audience.

One of the disappointments of the night was suffered by Briton John Boorman, who had been nominated for best producer, best director and best scriptwriter for his film Hope and Glory, a fond look at himself growing up in London during the second world war. He came away empty-handed.

Broadcast News, nominated as best picture and whose three stars were up for awards, was also ignored.

The 4,400 film industry members of the academy of motion picture arts and sciences that vote on awards are generally a conservative group that likes vast spectacles, such as The Last Emperor.

The film has had only a limited release in the United States so far and financial analysts believe its batch of Oscars will guarantee the 23-million-dollar production at least another 15 million dollars at the US box office, adding to the 100 million dollars it has already taken overseas.

"The academy awards have always seemed to me like a distant ceremony, something I didn't believe in," Bertolucci said in accepting his award for best director. "Now I have become an Oscar victim."

The award for best picture was accepted by the film's British producer, Jeremy Thomas, who had raised the money for the film from European banks.

Apart from best film and best director, The Last Emperor also received Oscars for cinematography — Vittorio Storaro — art direction,



Bernardo Bertolucci (left) with his Oscar for best director, and (right) a scene from the nine-Oscar-winning film 'The Last Emperor.'



Best supporting actor: Sean Connery, former James Bond, won for his portrayal of a crusty Irish cop in The Untouchables



Best supporting actress: Olympia Dukakis, cousin of Democratic presidential contender Michael Dukakis won for her role in Moonstruck.

sound, editing, costume design, screenplay based on material from another medium and original score.

The Danish film Babette's Feast (Babette's Feast) won the Oscar for best foreign-language film, beating out a strong contender in French director Louis Malle's An Indochinois, another look at childhood days.

The Danish film, starring French actress Stephanie Audran, tells of two elderly Danish spinners whose French housekeeper prepares a sumptuous meal that becomes a religious experience.

The song "I've Had" the time of my life, from the film Dirty Dancing, was named the best original song.

Billy Wilder, winner of six Oscar for films such as Sunset

Boulevard and The Apartment, received the Irvin G. Thalberg memorial award for his contribution to the film industry.

Winners of the annual Oscars, awarded each year by the academy of motion picture arts and sciences are as follows:

Best picture: The Last Emperor.

Best director: The Last Emperor, Bernardo Bertolucci.

Best actor: Wall Street, Michael Douglas.

Best actress: Moonstruck, Cher.

Best supporting actress: Moonstruck, Olympia Dukakis.

Best original screenplay: Moonstruck, John Patrick Shanley.

Best screenplay adapted

from another medium: The Last Emperor, Bernardo Bertolucci and Mark Peploe.

Best foreign language film: Babette's Feast (Babette's Feast).

Best original score: The Last Emperor, Ryuichi Sakamoto, David Byrne and Cong Su.

Best original song: "I've Had" the Time of My Life, with music by Fraake Previtte, John Deicola and Donald Markowitz and lyrics by Franke Previtte.

Best cinematography: The Last Emperor, Vittorio Storaro.

Best art direction: The Last Emperor, Ferdinando Scarfotti, for art direction, and Bruno Cesari, for set direction.

Best costume design: The Last Emperor, James Acheson.

Best film editing: The Last

Emperor, Gabriella Cristiani.

Best sound: The Last Emperor, Bill Rowe and Ivan Saurack.

Best visual effects: Inner Space, Denis Muren, William George, Hargley, Jessup and Kenneth Smith.

Best makeup: Harry and The Hendersons, Rick Baker.

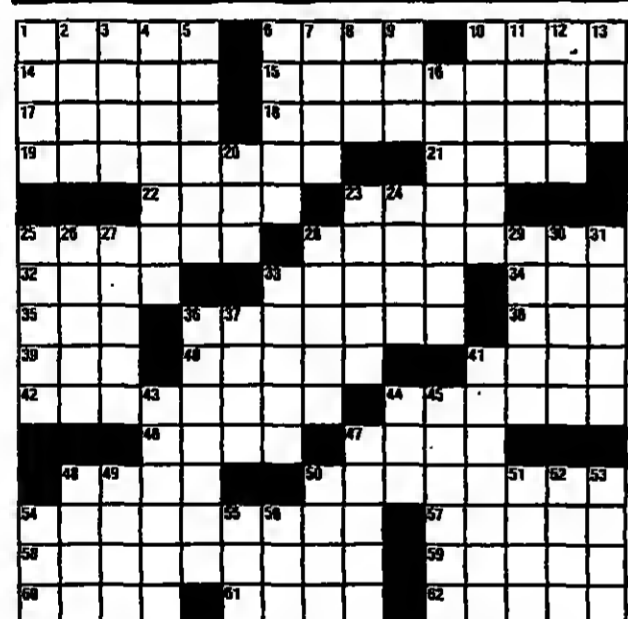
Best animated short: The Man Who Planted Trees (Canada), Frederic Back.

Best short documentary: Young At Heart, Sue Marx and Pamela Conn.

Best documentary feature: The Ten-year Lunch: The Wit and Legend of the Algonquin Round Table, Aviva Slesin.

Best live action short film: Ray's Male Heterosexual Dance Hall, with Jonathan Sanger and Jana Sue Memel.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 Nautical command
 - 6 letter
 - 10 Villa d'
 - 14 Opinion
 - 15 Turtles' shells
 - 17 Of yore
 - 18 Footloose
 - 19 Ocean flow
 - 21 Tiny farmers
 - 22 Asian occasions
 - 23 Small land mass
 - 25 Harsh
 - 28 The West
 - 32 Culture medium
 - 34 Keith of film
 - 34 Costello
 - 35 about town
 - 36 Rose Sea sight
 - 38 Saus
 - 39 Pindar opus
 - 40 Bank patron
 - 41 Lech Walesa, for one
 - 42 Evaluated
 - 44 Exchange
 - 46 Oil or gas
 - 47 Reduce
 - 48 Diamond decision
 - 50 Ancestor of the modern horse
 - 54 News staff
 - 57 Latin-American beat
 - 58 Dislikes
 - 59 Cat Nation
 - 60 Cheerful
 - 61 Dagger
 - 62 Psychics

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

- DOWN
- 1 Bath's river
 - 2 Fieldmouse
 - 3 Verdi opera
 - 4 King's staff
 - 5 Scout on an outing

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

SECOND HAND LOW!

Neither vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH

♠ A K 9 3

♥ 10 3

♦ A 6 4 2

♣ 10 7 2

WEST EAST

♠ Q J 10 6 4 2 ♠ Void

♥ 9 5 2 ♥ 8 4

♦ Q 3 ♦ K 10 9 8 7

♣ Q 3 ♣ A J 9 6 5 4

SOUTH

♠ 8 7 5

♥ A K Q J 7 6

♦ J 5

♣ K 8

The bidding:

West North East South

2 ♠ Pass Pass 3 ♥

Pass 4 ♥ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

No matter how obvious your line seems, don't play to the first trick from dummy until you have worked out your campaign. Fast fingers have cost more contracts than loose lips sank ships in World War II.

West's opening preempt did not stop the enemy from reaching their heart game. With a one-suited hand, South could do no more than bid three hearts. Since a bid at the three-level had to denote a good suit, North felt comfortable about raising to game with his three quick

tricks and doubtless trump. He might have tried three no trump but, with the club suit unstopped, we endorse his raise.

West led the queen of spades, and the hand was soon over. Declarer covered with dummy's king and East ruffed. East cashed the ace of clubs, then shifted to a diamond, and declarer still had to lose a diamond and a spade for down one.

A little more care at the first trick would have ensured the contract. Since East almost surely was going to ruff, see what a difference it would have made had declarer played low from dummy to the first trick.

If West switches suit, declarer can draw trumps and lose only one trick in each side suit. Therefore, West must persevere with spades, but he has a choice of losing options in that suit. If he continues with a low spade, declarer inserts dummy's nine and, although East ruffs, declarer will be able to eventually gain the lead, draw trumps and then take a diamond discard on a high spade. If West continues with a spade honor, declarer covers and East ruffs, but the table's A-9 in spades now constitutes a finesse position over West's 10-6, and declarer will still be able to get a diamond discard on the spades with the help of a finesse.



"Your wife's been watching too many soap operas. You've got ring-around-the-tube."

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 21 - April 19)

You should not allow someone else's lack of confidence to affect you. You will know how to exploit a good opportunity. You should make sure you pay attention to what you are doing.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

This is going to be a most satisfying day for you. You will be able to do something to improve your financial situation but only if you continue to exercise restraint. You should do something a little more positive. Be courteous.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Do not behave as though sex were everything. Avoid allowing your preconceptions to preponderate. You will not have as much energy as usual and will have to make up for it with willpower. Be a little more affectionate.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will be better able to face up to the situation you are in. You should not be in such a hurry that you forget some vital detail. Make sure you remain objective and put first things first. Be constructive.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will get on well with your friends. The situation is more favorable to you. Do not allow some small irritation to become a major annoyance. Be confident.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

Today you will be able to do something more to your liking. You should take steps to a curb a tendency towards impulsiveness. You should find satisfaction a little things too. Be cordial.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will be able to get out of a stagnant situation. The Moon's better influence will help you to deepen a relationship. You will be able to find a provisional solution to an abiding problem. Be a little more patient.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will have to do something about your level of expenditure. Mars' influence will help you to deal with a personal problem. Make sure you get all the rest you need. Be reasonable.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will feel somewhat more nervous and will be a little confused to boot. You should do all you can to keep calm and to sow the seeds of calmness around you. Avoid getting things out of proportion.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will have to deal with some small tensions lest they become worse. Do not let others overpower you. Have a lot more faith in yourself. Be moderate.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You have give rapid attention to a personal problem. It will only get worse. Give yourself a little more time to deliberate. Avoid putting too much emphasis on your intuitions. Be more tolerant.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

The moon's influence will help you to have good ideas. You should avoid treading on other people's sensitivities. Now is a good time to take the initiative. Be consistent.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Indonesia and Venezuela forge closer ties

Non-Opec oil producers discuss output cut

OSLO, April 12, (Reuters): Seven non-Opec oil producers have been discussing cutting their oil production by almost half a million barrels a day in exchange for a cut by the 13-nation organisation, a senior Mexican oil ministry official said today.

The official, part of a delegation on a visit to Oslo, spoke on condition that he not be identified.

He told Reuters that Mexico and six other countries — which are to hold talks with Opec in Vienna on April 23 — had been discussing various measures to stabilise world oil prices.

Asked if a mutual cut of five per cent was being considered, he replied: "That is one option. We are all very concerned."

His comments were the first confirmation from within the group — Egypt, Angola, Mexico, China, Malaysia, Colombia and Oman — that it is talking of concrete measures to cut the world oil glut which has pushed prices down in recent months.

Five per cent of the seven countries' production would represent about 400,000 barrels a day (bpd), while a similar cut

from Opec would represent about 850,000 bpd — a total of more than 1.2 million bpd.

There have been recent signs that countries outside the organisation might be willing to cooperate with Opec on oil production.

Mexico has already trimmed output. Norway, also outside Opec and Western Europe's biggest producer after Britain, has made a 7.5 per cent cut in planned production growth.

But the Mexican official said that the group which would meet Opec in Vienna was made up of independent countries and that it was far from clear that they would be able or willing to implement a uniform cut.

Decision Asked whether Mexico would cut its oil production, now put at close to three million bpd by the International Energy Agency (IEA), he said: "We have taken no decision on that yet."

He said the meeting with Opec later this month, unprecedented in the sale of discussions between the organisation and other oil producers, would be "a meeting for consultations."

The Mexican delegation came to Norway at its own request and met Norwegian Oil and Energy Minister Arne Oeien.

Oeien said he had not been told of any specific measures planned by the non-Opec group but "we have been informed that they intend to put into effect concrete, visible measures."

Oeien also said he had been informally invited to be present at the April 23 Vienna talks with Opec, but he declined to say whether he planned to go.

While Norway, with the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union, was not an Opec's original list of invitees, the organisation has said it does not rule out having the Norwegians and the Russians attend.

The United States and Britain both oppose anything that suggests manipulation of the market, although the Saudi Oil Minister, Hisham Nazer, is to visit Britain this week and meet Energy Secretary Cecil Parkinson, probably tomorrow.

Norway, keen to maintain an independent image, usually sends only observers to meetings and says it will not take part in

any group decisions. It would be highly unusual for a Norwegian oil minister to attend a meeting hosted by Opec.

But senior government sources told Reuters Oeien had not ruled out going to Vienna, provided the meeting was not intended to take policy decisions. "We cannot afford to exclude anything, with the oil market the way it is at the moment," a source said.

Meanwhile, Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi was greeted by Balinese dancing girls today at the start of a state visit designed to kindle closer ties with fellow-Opec member Indonesia.

Crucial Lusinchi, accompanied by a 40-member delegation including Foreign Minister German Nava Carrillo, was welcomed on arrival at Indonesia's resort island of Bali by Energy Minister Giandjar Kartasasmita.

Indonesia and Venezuela are key non-Arab moderates within the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), and both are members of the organisation's pricing committee scheduled to have crucial talks

this month with non-Opec producers.

It is the first visit by a Latin American head of state to Indonesia during President Suharto's 22-year rule, and Venezuelan Ambassador Jesus Garcia Coronado said they would discuss ways of promoting political and economic ties with south-east Asia's largest nation.

The Venezuelan president is scheduled to meet Suharto in Jakarta tomorrow.

Giandjar said yesterday that Indonesia was trying to act as peacemaker, along with Venezuela and Nigeria, to bridge differences within Opec over future strategy. Together with Saudi Arabia and Algeria, they form the influential five-man pricing committee.

"We hope if the three of us act together then we can bring unity to Opec. As is known, there are different views that are fairly basic within the Opec body. For instance between Iran and Saudi Arabia," he said.

Especially with Venezuela I talked about how we can protect the unity of Opec. Our views with Venezuela are precisely the same,

because our production level is about the same," he added.

Giandjar said he had talks again last night with Venezuelan Energy Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti who is already in Jakarta, but gave no details.

Iran has called for production cuts of between five and 10 per cent, while Saudi Arabia favours preserving Opec's market share in the face of larger non-Opec sales, industry sources said.

Speaking to Reuters before the arrival of the president, Giandjar said a cut in global production of 700,000 barrels a day should be enough to bring oil prices back up to around \$18.

If non-Opec producers cut back to 1987 levels it would trim 500,000 barrels a day from the world market. He said cuts in production above quotas by Opec members would save an additional 200,000 barrels.

"I think that is enough to bring oil prices back up to \$18 a barrel," he stated. Opec's price committee is scheduled to meet in Vienna later this month for unprecedented talks between the Organisation and non-Opec producers.

World Business Summary

French foreign trade deficit rises sharply

PARIS, April 12, (Kuma): France's foreign trade deficit rose sharply in February to 5.2 billion (\$0.9 billion) from 600 million (\$109 million) in January and even lower December amount of 400 million (\$72.7 million), according to seasonally adjusted figures released today by the Foreign Trade Ministry. The very poor performance in February is blamed on the industrial sector with declining exports and a deficit of 6.5 billion francs (\$1.18 billion) compared with a surplus of 1.4 billion francs (\$0.25 billion) in February 1987. Total exports in February fell by 6.5 per cent to 74.3 billion francs and imports dropped by 0.7 per cent to 79.5 billion francs.

For the first two months of this year, the deficit is standing at around 5.9 billion francs (\$1.07 billion) compared with only 4.4 billion in the same period last year. The Foreign Trade Ministry is anticipating a total deficit of a little over 30 billion francs (\$5.45 billion) for the year 1988.

Declining oil prices contributed to a lower deficit of the energy bill, 4.7 billion francs (\$0.85 billion) in February compared with 5.9 billion in January and 6.5 billion in February 1987.

Kuwait Fund loans for water projects in Senegal

THE Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development has extended two loans totalling \$11.87 million to Senegal for water projects in rural areas.

The first loan of \$9.13 million will be used to provide 2.80 million cu. metres of drinking water per year for rural areas. The project includes the construction of 212 water centres and 10 ponds across the country, except in the Cape Verde region. Work begins this year and will be completed in 1991.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$20.46 million, 45 per cent of it covered by the Kuwait Fund.

The 25-year loan includes five years of grace and bears an annual interest rate of 1.50 per cent.

The second credit of \$2.74 million will help bridge the gap in the financing of an emergency rural water supply project for Senegal's Tuiss and eastern regions. The Kuwaiti government provided financing to the project in 1983 in the form of a grant under the auspices of the committee of Islamic solidarity with countries of the Sahel. The scheme will provide drinking water to 23 villages in Tuiss and 24 in East Senegal. The total cost is estimated at more than \$8 million, 34 per cent of it covered by the Kuwait Fund and the balance by the grant earlier provided by the Kuwaiti government. The project, which started in 1984, is expected to be completed in 1989. The 24-year loan includes a grace period of four years and bears an interest rate of one per cent.

Both agreements were signed by Bader Mishari Al Humaidhi, director general of the Kuwait Fund and Sergine Lamine Diop, Senegal's Minister of Economy and Finance.

IDB executive board meets

JEDDAH, April 12, (Opecna): The board of directors of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) opened its 97th session here on Monday. Under the chairmanship of IDB president Dr Ahmad Mohamed Ali, the board is scheduled to approve financing of a number of new development projects and technical assistance to member countries. It will consider the extension of special assistance to some Muslim communities in non-member countries as well as the financing of foreign trade operations. The directors are also due to discuss progress reports on a number of projects financed and co-financed by the IDB.

Six new board members, appointed at the 12th annual IDB meeting in Tunisia, are attending for the first time. They are: Balghoul Bou-Asria (Algeria), Karneen A. Perwataatmadja (Indonesia), Dr Ahmad Hamad Al Nuaimi (Qatar), Dr Dhafer Ahmed Almurran (Bahrain), Mamour Malick Jagne (Gambia) and Al Sayed Ali Ahmed Zaki (Sudan).

Overseas investment totals \$1.33b

SEOUL, South Korea, April 12, (AP): Total investment by South Korean businesses in overseas equity projects since 1968 stood at \$1.33 billion for 608 projects as of March 31, the Finance Ministry reported today. The figure showed an increase of \$290 million and 102 projects over data for previous year.

Officials said \$539 million went to North America, followed by \$354 million to Southeast Asia and \$317 million to the Middle East. Ministry officials said the government plans to encourage local businesses to increase investment in Latin American and African countries to take advantage of relatively cheap labour and preferential trade treatment accorded those countries by the United States and the European Economic Community.

Korea seeks to avoid growing protectionist restrictions on its exports by moving manufacturing operations to Third World countries.

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2. Cashiers
3. Public Relations Person or Saleslady

For more information, call 5728843, 5714093

Cordial invitation to costume jewellery dealers extended by
Khalil Bahman Trading Est.
Telephone: 2422081/2/5, 2429411, 2429189
To attend an exhibition organised by Jablonex Foreign Trade Corporation of Czechoslovakia. There will be a wide display of latest collection of metal, glass and wooden imitation jewellery, handbags, ladies belts, hair crowns and artificial flowers.
Venue: Hotel Sheraton, Red Room on mezzanine floor, from Sunday 10th April, until Sunday 17th April 1988.
Timings: 9.00 a.m. - 12.30 noon & 4.00 - 8.30 p.m.

Business is booming again in Tangier

TANGIER, April 12, (Reuters): Business is booming again in Tangier, if only in a small way in the "13-acre (six-hectare) free trade zone inside the harbour on the straits of Gibraltar."

For most people, Tangier evokes an era of financial skulduggery and commercial deriding — when the city was an international zone governed in a free and easy way by a dozen nations.

In those days there were as many banks as bistros, it was an international smuggling centre, and the setting for many spy novels featuring Dean's Bar of the Creaky Muzak hotel.

But the international zone was abolished after Morocco became independent of France and Spain in 1956. The money-changers left, the smugglers drifted away, and the economy sank into the doldrums.

Cheaper

The cosmopolitan community also shrank. Woolworth heiress Barbara Hutton abandoned her palace on the mountain. Like many other long-time residents, the honourable Robert Montagu De Vere Elliot went home with his butler and family silver "because it is cheaper to live in Cornwall."

Tourists still flock to the city in search of the exotic and Moorish mysteries, but as retired British consul William Puljhyank says sadly: "Things ain't what they used to be."

Complaints from local businessmen that the city had become an economic backwater convinced the government to set up the free trade zone in 1962 in an effort to revive activity.

The idea was slow to catch on. Some merchants set up shop to trade mainly in duty-free goods to supply ships. One theory held that this was the only activity allowed. There are 23 such firms, three banks, an insurance company and a post office.

The government decree regulating the Tangier free trade zone does not mention industrial activity. There are now eight factories in the zone and a ninth is being built.

Factories

Mohamed Sekkouri, the zone manager, cannot remember who set up the first industrial plant, but he says once it started there was a rush to set up factories so that today the zone is full.

"Industrial activity is not banned, therefore people have assumed that it is permitted," Sekkouri told Reuters.

Oil trade between Nigeria and US increases

LAGOS, Nigeria, April 12, (AP): Nigeria's crude oil exports to the United States rose 20 per cent in 1987 making Nigeria the fourth largest oil supplier to the US, according to figures released today by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corp (NNPC).

Daily crude oil exports to the United States reached 524,000 barrels compared with the 1986 figure of 436,750 barrels a day. Corporation officials attributed the increase to a reduction in domestic Nigerian oil consumption and last year's more stable international oil market.

The NNPC said Saudi Arabia is the top supplier.

Advanced TV technology to make public debut in Japan

BOSTON, April 12, (Reuters): Japanese viewers will be able to watch the Olympics this year on television sets with such sharp detail and realistic colour that it will seem as though they are watching a high quality movie.

The broadcasts of the summer games from Seoul, to 200 television sets in 50 public locations throughout Japan, will be the first large public demonstration of the biggest advance in television picture quality since colour was introduced.

They will also represent a victory for the Japanese in their battle with European and American broadcasters, manufacturers and governments over standards for the new technology.

Images

At issue is high definition television, usually referred to as HDTV, a technology that makes television images as sharp and detailed as the best quality movies.

Industry analysts say the market for a new generation of television sets could reach \$20 to \$30 billion in the United States alone by 1995, and possibly twice that in Japan, where the technology is expected to arrive much

sooner.

Because Japan is by far the leader in development of the technology, nationalism and politics have become an important aspect of HDTV's development. European and American companies are trying to prevent the loss of yet another consumer electronics market to Japan.

Sharp

Television today is transmitted as images broken into 525 horizontal lines, called scan lines. HDTV expands the number of lines to 1,125, creating an image as sharp as 35 millimeter film.

The new format also expands the television screen to a rectangle with a width-to-height ratio of five-to-three, instead of the four-to-three ratio of conventional sets.

The wider screen matches the dimension of cinema screens and does not cut off the sides of films made for theatres, as regular television sets do.

The problem with HDTV is that it requires a band width five times wider than is allocated to traditional television signals, making it incompatible with existing broadcast equipment and television sets.

US researchers have been working on the technology for only about eight years, mostly in university rather than commercial laboratories.

In Europe, Philips of the Netherlands is developing an HDTV

system similar to that of NHK that also does not work on existing television sets.

Officials of the European Economic Community are trying to bring political pressure to bear on Japan. EEC officials met with Japanese representatives for three days last month in an effort to persuade them to make HDTV equipment to Western broadcasting standards rather than their own. But the talks produced only a glimmer of cooperation.

Opportunity

"There were no detailed conclusions but we agreed on direct contacts between principal companies in Europe and Japan," said Andreas Van Agt, the EEC's ambassador to Japan.

William Glenn, director of the New York Institute of Technology, a lab that has developed an HDTV system, blamed the US development lag on the lack of a domestic television set industry.

With no industry group, there is no incentive to develop a technology that would require the purchase of a new television. Only one US company, Zenith Electronics, still makes television sets.

Pressure

US researchers have been working on the technology for only about eight years, mostly in university rather than commercial laboratories.

In Europe, Philips of the Netherlands is developing an HDTV

Bankers keeping a close eye on money supply growth

World economy still growing

BASLE, Switzerland, April 12, (Reuters): Six months after "black Monday" central bankers in the industrialised countries are convinced the world economy has avoided the danger of recession and are beginning to look again at the risk of inflation; monetary sources said.

"There has been a gradual shift in attention, nothing dramatic at all, a nuance," said one central banker after the regular monthly meeting at the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) here yesterday.

"Three months ago, everyone was worried about recession. Now they are looking at monetary policy and what the consequences could be."

Many economists had feared that October's worldwide stock collapse would, as in 1929, be followed by a generalised recession.

However, this time around central banks responded to the crash by printing more money rather than by tightening credit — and the world economy is still growing.

"The general assessment of the situation is more confident than four weeks ago and even more so than eight weeks ago," the banker told reporters. "It is more and more obvious that economic development in most industrial countries is stronger than it was feared and expected at the end of the year."

Growth

At the same time, however, bankers say they are keeping a close eye on money supply growth in the major industrialised countries.

"There has been strong monetary expansion, especially in Britain, Japan and West Germany," the bankers said. "This is

something the central banks must watch."

"For the time being we are convinced that the period of relatively stable prices will continue," he added.

Bankers were reluctant to comment on this week's Washington meeting of finance ministers and central bank governors from the Group of Seven — the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada.

"It is just going to be a routine meeting and we are all trying to keep expectations to a minimum," one banker said.

"Everyone wanted a stable dollar and we have got it." Bankers declined to discuss target zones for the dollar but stressed that a recent report saying they would agree a 125 yen bottom for the US unit was unfounded.

US salesmen teach Soviets tricks of advertising

MOSCOW, April 12, (Reuters): American salesmen administered a culture shock to managers from Soviet state industry today, telling them at a Moscow seminar on advertising techniques that "the consumer is king."

Officials of Coca-Cola, American Express, chemical firm Monsanto and public relations consultants Young and Rubicam spoke at the one-day course as 500 US businessmen opened a meeting with Soviet officials to explore trade opportunities.

"It's very interesting but a bit vulgar," said Alefina Roznov of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce after hearing an illustrated talk on how Coca-Cola Co launched a new, low-calorie brand of the famous soft drink.

Goods

"I will pass on what I have learnt to Soviet enterprises but at the moment we don't need much advertising because we don't have enough goods. Maybe after 'perestroika' we will need it," she added.

She was referring to Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's economic reforms which Moscow says have opened up new

prospects for foreign firms to expand business with the Soviet Union.

The 500 executives were discussing projects such as joint ventures with some 300 Soviet managers at the annual meeting of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council (Astec), a private group linking US business and Soviet industry.

Problems

At the advertising seminar, Marc Hamburger, Coca-Cola's assistant vice-president for marketing, showed television commercials to illustrate how "diet coke" was sold worldwide. "Having a superior product doesn't mean much unless the consumer knows about it. Your package must stand out on the shelf," he told a curious but suspicious audience.

"How do you convince people that advertisements tell the truth?" asked a Soviet listener. The answer was that in a free market the consumer has choice and if the seller strains his credibility the disappointed customer shops elsewhere.

American managers at the trade fair said one of their greatest problems in doing business with Soviet firms was find-

ing a common economic language.

"Once we understood each other's concepts we had few problems in negotiating," said James Verrant of industrial control systems maker Honeywell Inc, which yesterday announced the launch of a joint venture aimed at helping to modernise the Soviet chemical fertiliser industry.

Not all Soviet participants at the seminar needed to be convinced of the benefits of advertising. "We must follow their example. We have good products but we need to show they are good," said Bogdan Lischina, director of the 'Azot' chemical factory in Severodonetsk in the Ukraine.

Claims

Lack of advertising is one of the first features which strikes foreign visitors to the Soviet Union. People hear by word of mouth when desirable items go on sale and, given the shortage of many goods, that is enough to ensure a sellout.

Meanwhile, two New Jersey entrepreneurs watched with satisfaction today as Moscow residents lined up in snow flurries to taste American pizza delivered by the latest Soviet-US joint

US-Soviet trade talks open

MOSCOW, April 12 (UPI): US Secretary of Commerce, William Verity and Deputy Minister for Foreign Economic Relations, Alexander Kachav, opened the 10th session of the joint US-Soviet trade commission today with both sides apparently eager to increase the flow of goods between the two countries.

As the government talks began, 500 US businessmen under the auspices of the non-governmental US-USSR Trade and Economic Council met 300 Soviet counterparts for two days of talks aimed at improving business-to-business contacts.

On his arrival yesterday, Verity warned that any increase in trade depended on improvements in other parts of the superpower relationship.

Kachav echoed Verity's sentiments by demanding that Washington ease what he termed "discriminatory" restrictions on trade which are directly linked to Soviet performance in the

human rights field.

He also warned that no improvement in trade was possible until the restrictions were lifted.

The United States, through the Jackson-Vanik amendment to the 1974 trade act, prohibits extension of US government credits and most favoured nation status to any Communist country that restricts free emigration of its citizens. The amendment sponsored by Democratic Senator Henry Jackson of Washington and Democratic Congressman Charles Vanik of Ohio was prompted by US concern over the Soviet Union's treatment of its Jewish population.

"The US government supports the expansion of peaceful, mutually beneficial trade and economic relations between the United States and the Soviet Union, and we hope to reach agreement on some specific steps that can expand our trade within current policies," he said.



Soviet citizens have their first bite of an American-style pizza as a joint Soviet-American business venture opened yesterday at the Lenin Hills. (Reuters wirephoto)

venture. Astro Pizza — a partnership owned 51 per cent by the Moscow city government and 49 per cent by Usso-Food International Inc — opened for business with its mobile kitchen perched on the Lenin Hills overlooking the Soviet capital.

The 36-foot-long van, emblazoned with English and Cyrillic lettering proclaiming the new joint venture, carried the claims in English of "it's tasty, it's fresh, it's free delivery." The offer of free delivery will remain unfilled for the foreseeable future, but the steady flow of Russians seemed to accept the other claims.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	INCHCAPE	695/0
ABBEY LIFE	68.73	JAGUAR	286/0
ADT LTD	115.0	LAOBBROKE	415.0
ALD LTONS	392.0	LAND SECS	547/0
AMSTRAD	162.0	LAPORTE	370/0
ARGYLL GP	204.0	LASMO	341/0
ASDA GP	172.0	LEGAL+GEN	273.0
BAA PP	115/0	LOWRHO	249/0
BTR	254/0	LUCAS IND	548.0
BAT INDS	438.0	MAGNET	243.0
BARCLAYS	423/0	MARKS+SP	183.0
BASS	848.0	MAXWELL C	248/0
BEAZER	73.00	METAL BOX	197/0
BEECHAMS	470.0	MEPC	527/0
BET ORD	235/0	MILANO BK	389.0
BICC PLC	317/0	NEXT	265/0
BLUE ARW	123/0	NTN FOODS	246.0
BLUE CIRC	447/0	P & O DFD	602/0
BCC GP	386/0	PEARL	443.0
BOBBS GP	221.0	PEARSON	687/0
BPB INDS	292/0	PILKINGTON	217.0
BR COM	300.0	PLESLEY	151.0
BR AIRWAY	168/0	PRUDENTIAL	808/0
BR AEROSP	413/0	RACAL	221/0
BR GAS RG	182/0	RANK NVIS	317.0
B.P.	276.0	RANK ORG	811.0
B.P.NEW	77.0	RCKITT+CO	710.0
BR TELCOM	250/0	REDLAND	424/0
BRITOL	512.0	REED	397.0
BUNZL	143/0	RTL BK SC	323.0
BURNH OL	523.0	RMC GRP	480/0
BURTON	248.0	ROBERTSON	710.0
CABLESWIR	337.0	ROYAL INS	425/0
CADBURYS	265.0	SAATCHI	412.0
COATS VIT	238/0	SAINSBURY	241.0
COMM UN	336.0	SCOT+NEW	285/0
CONS GOLD	905.0	SEARS	128.0
COOKSONS	576/0	SEDEGWICK	10.00
COURTAULD	335/0	SHELL	085.0
DALGETT	273/0	SMITH+NEPH	125.0
DECCO	175/0	SMITHS A	298.0
DIAGEO	170.0	STC	244/0
ENIC CHINA	402/0	STOREHSE	248.0
ENTER OIL	360.0	SUN ALLIA	930/0
FERRANTI	78.5	TARMAC	248/0
FISONS	242/0	TATE+LYLE	755/0
GEN ACCIO	242/0	TESCO	160/0
GEN ELEC	148/0	THORN EMI	612/0
GLAYO	027.0	TRAF HSE	327.0
GRANADA	330.0	TSE	106.0
GLOBE	138/0	TRINISTNE	184.0
GRAND NET	489/0	ULTRAMAR	250/0
GUS A	085.0	UNILEVER	471.0
GUARD RYL	905/0	UNIGATE	254/0
GKN	310/0	UTO BISC	257/0
GUINNESS	302.0	UTO WNSPR	434.0
HAMPSON A	600.0	MELLCOME	476.0
HANSON	132/0	WHTBRD IN	305/0
HUKER SIO	472.0	WILLIAMS	309.0
HILLSDOWN	81.21	WILLIS FB	18.00
ICI	018/0	WIMPET GE	250/0
IMI	190/0	WOOLWORTH	292/0

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	691/0	688/0
600 GROUP	108/0	108/0
A.B.ELECT	417/0	415/0
AAR HLD	255/0	256/0
AARONSON	122/0	123/0
ADDISON	95/0	95/0
ADMET	318/0	318/0
ALEX WRKT	156/0	155/0
ALLD COLL	132/0	132/0
ALLO RLT	233/0	230/0
ALLD PLINT	50/0	51/0
ALLIANCE	768/0	770/0
AMARI	179/0	180/0
AMEC	383/0	383/0
AMER TRST	118/0	118/0
AMERSHAM	467/0	466/0
ANI HLTHC	273/0	273/0
ANGLO O'S	197/0	198/0
ANSSACHER	66/0	65/0
APPLETARD	393/0	393/0
APPRODOT	105/0	105/0
APV PLC	120/0	121/0
AQUAS.A.	72/0	73/0
ARAN ENGT	74/0	75/0
ARLINGTON	194/0	193/0
ARMSTRONG	138/0	139/0
ASHLEY.LA	117/0	116/0
ATWOODS	284/0	285/0
AUS REE A	219/0	220/0
AUST REED	343/0	340/0
AVON RUBB	647/0	647/0
B.VERMILL	163/0	164/0
BAILL JAP	511/0	511/0
BANKER IT	68/0	69/0
BARKER D	145/0	145/0
BARTY DES	188/0	188/0
BARNES C	30/0	30/0
BEJAM GP	168/0	167/0
BEHAVEN	49/0	49/0
BELLWAY	239/0	240/0
BENLOX HD	62/0	62/0
BENTLAYS	195/0	196/0
BERTSFORD	274/0	274/0
BIRKBEY	367/0	365/0
BIRN GROUP	369/0	370/0
BK OF SCO	518/0	517/0
BLACKWOOD	54/0	54/0
BLACK LE	2/0	1/0
BHUYET +F	36/0	36/0
BOASE MAS	263/0	262/0
BODDINGTON	130/0	131/0
BOOKER	381/0	382/0
BOOT. HEHR	340/0	338/0
BORTHWICK	44/0	45/0
BOUATRE	382/0	383/0
BOUWHORSE	168/0	169/0
BR ASSETS	64/0	65/0
BR OREGDI	119/0	119/0
BR LAND	305/0	305/0
BR VITA	426/0	427/0

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH COM	32/0	32/1
ATLANTIC R	89/0	89/2
AAR CORP	24/1	24/3
AETNA LIFE	44/5	44/4
ALASKA AIR	16/6	16/6
ALCAN ALUM	29/0	29/0
ALCO STAND	24/6	24/5
AM CYNAMID	52/3	52/6
AM ELET PW	27/7	28/0
AM NOM PRO	77/1	77/3
AM NON PRO	79/5	79/7
AM STNDARD	77/2	77/3
AM STORES	65/7	66/1
AM TEL-TEL	28/0	27/7
AMOCO CORP	79/5	79/0
AMP INC	50/3	50/3
AMPICO PITT	15/0	14/7
AMP CORP	42/0	41/6
AMR GEN CO	32/4	32/4
AMERADA HE	31/7	31/3
ANTHEM ELE	12/6	12/6
APACHE CP	3/0	2/7
APACHE PET	41/4	41/4
ASSTRONG	69/3	69/0
ASHLND OIL	6/4	6/3
ATLS CORP	0	35/5
AVERY INT	24/4	24/6
AVNET INC	27/1	27/4
AVNET PRODS	25/4	25/4
BELL ATLAN	68/0	68/4
BCE INC	31/4	31/4
BELL-HOW	62/5	62/4
BETH STEEL	22/2	22/6
BEVERLY	7/0	7/1
BK BOSTON	24/4	24/4
BK BOST-A	0	48/6
BK N-YORK	33/5	33/5
BK NY-NY	30/6	30/7
BKAMERICA	10/7	11/0
BKAM SPEC	7/2	7/1
BOEING CO	47/2	47/3
BOISE CAS	48/6	48/6
BORDEN	54/0	54/0
BOMAYER	33/7	33/7
BR TELECOM	46/6	47/0
BRIGGS-STR	32/6	32/7
BRIST-HYER	42/5	42/6
BRUNSWICK	22/6	22/4
BURDICK CP	15/4	15/4
C 3 INC	14/0	14/0
CASOT CORP	36/5	36/6
CAESARS WD	24/6	24/7
CAL FREIGHT	24/1	23/7
CAS NAT GS	15/6	15/5
CASH-COOKE	24/1	24/2
CATERPI TR	65/6	65/7
CB IND	27/5	27/5
CBS	160/2	160/3
CENTEL CP	48/2	48/4
CENTRO OAT	2/3	2/4
CHAMP INTL	35/2	35/4
CHAMP SPA	12/2	12/3
CHARTER CO	4/4	4/5
CHASE MAN	25/4	25/5
CHEMED CP	36/0	36/0
CHEMED NY	23/4	23/6
CHEVRON	49/6	49/4
CHRYSLER	24/4	24/5
CHUBB CORP	57/4	57/5
CHURR FR CH	7/3	7/4
CIGNA CORP	46/6	46/6
CIN HILCAR	25/6	25/6
CIR CIT ST	29/3	29/2
CITICORP	13/3	13/3
CLARK EWI	29/6	29/4
CLOREX	31/0	31/1
COBELL RES	1/5	1/6
COBELL SP	29/1	29/3
CAN PAC	19/6	19/7
COACHMEN	8/4	8/5
COASTAL	29/3	29/3
COCA-COLA	39/0	39/1
COLECO	0	3/1
COLEMAN CO	40/3	40/2
COLG-PALM	43/1	43/1
COLT INDS	17/1	17/7
COLUM GAS	28/2	28/2
COM EDISON	26/4	26/5
CONAGRA	27/0	27/0
CON EDISON	43/6	44/0
CONTINENTA	38/2	38/1
CONTEL ILL	*03	*03
CONTEL CP	34/5	34/6
CONTR DATA	27/2	27/0
COOPER Y-R	37/6	37/7
COOPER CORP	11/5	11/5
CORNING GL	54/3	54/3
CRANE	33/0	32/3
CRAV RES	83/6	83/6
CULLINET	0	7/6
DANIEL IND	9/5	9/5
DATACORP	24/0	24/1
DAYPOINTY	5/4	5/4
DAYTON HOD	37/3	37/3
DEC	108/0	107/7
DEERE CO	47/0	47/1
DELTA AIR	50/5	50/6
DIAMOND SN	14/6	14/6
DIEBOLD	42/1	42/3
DISNEY W	57/2	57/0
DOVER CORP	63/4	63/5
DOW CHEMIC	87/6	88/2
DOW JONES	31/0	31/1
DRESSER IH	35/4	35/4
DREYFUS	27/6	27/7
DUNE POWER	45/1	45/2
ENR BRAD	48/2	48/2
ENQUEST	14/6	14/6
EAGLE PICH	23/0	23/0
EASTERN C	32/0	32/1
ENERSON RA	3/4	3/4
ENERGY AIR	6/4	6/4
ETHYL CP	23/7	24/0
EXXON	44/5	44/6
FAM OOL ST	13/4	13/4
FEO EXPRESS	49/1	49/3
FIELDCREY	21/6	21/6
FIN COR-AM	1/2	1/2
FIRESTONE	79/3	79/3
FMC CORP	30/3	29/7
FORD MOTOR	47/2	47/2
FORD HOWAR	38/4	38/6
FORBORD CO	30/3	30/4
FRCHLO IND	10/0	10/0
FST BANK	21/5	21/3
FST BOSTON	24/7	24/5
FST CHICAG	25/4	25/2
FST CTU BK	*14	*15
FST NAT BC	0	34/5
GAFF CORP	54/0	54/0
GANNEX CO	34/0	34/0
GALVESTON	1/6	1/5

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1433.7	1433.8	1413.4	1373.3
FT 500 SHR	1021.4	1021.4	995.9	957.6
FT ALL SHR	926.39	926.39	913.14	876.75
FT GOV SEC	91.05	91.05	91.01	88.49
FT GOLD MC	221.3	221.3	221.4	213.3
FT MINES F	423.92	423.92	448.08	432.96
FT OIL	1872.1	1872.1	1807.8	1768.7
FT 40 DLR	130.46	130.46	129.44	128.44
FT WLD STG	104.33	104.33	102.51	101.83
FT WLD LOC	114.99	114.99	113.62	112.29

London Stock Market Report

U.K. SHARES AT LOWS IN QUIET AFTERNOON TRADING
LONDON, APRIL 12, REUTER - SHARE PRICES DRIFTED TO THEIR LOWS IN QUIET AFTERNOON TRADING, WITH TODAY'S EARLY 9.6 POINT GAIN IN THE FTSE 100 INDEX WIPED OUT AS WALL STREET FAILED TO MAKE HEADWAY AT THE OPENING TODAY, DEALERS SAID.

WALL STREET'S MODERATE GAIN OVERNIGHT AND THE INABILITY OF THE DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE TO STAY ABOVE 2,100 TODAY WERE DISCOURAGING BUTTERS AND AT 1443 THE FTSE 100 WAS DOWN ONE POINT TO TODAY'S LOW OF 1,807.5 AFTER A BOUNDED 100 POINT GAIN.

DEALERS SAID INVESTOR RELUCTANCE TO ESTABLISH NEW POSITIONS AHEAD OF WEDNESDAY'S GROUP OF SEVEN MEETING IN WASHINGTON LARGELY ACCOUNTED FOR TODAY'S LOW VOLUME.

"WE'RE NOT REALLY EXPECTING TOO MUCH OUT OF WASHINGTON TOMORROW BUT NO-ONE WANTS TO BE UNPLEASANTLY SURPRISED," ONE TRADER REMARKED. DEALERS MOSTLY EXPECT THE G-7 MEETING WILL RESULT IN A STATEMENT IN FAVOUR OF CURRENCY STABILITY RATHER THAN PRODUCING ANY NEW INITIATIVE ON CURRENCIES.

JAPANESE FINANCE MINISTER KIICHI MIYAZAWA EARLIER TODAY SAID HE EXPECTED NO NEW CURRENCY INITIATIVES FROM THE G-7 MEETING.

DEALERS EXPECT TRADING TO CONTINUE QUIET UNTIL THURSDAY, WHICH BRINGS THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF U.S. TRADE FIGURES FOR FEBRUARY. ANALYSTS FORECAST THE DEFICIT NIGER HARMON TO 11.8 BILLION DOLLARS AFTER 12.44 BILLION IN JANUARY.

London Gold

LONDON, APRIL 12, REUTER - GOLD BULLION ENDED A FAIRLY SUBSIDED TRADING DAY AT 451.00/451.50 DOLLARS AN OUNCE, TWO OUNCE ABOVE MONDAY'S CLOSE OF 449.00/449.50 DOLLARS.

GOLD WAS KEPT TO A TIGHT TWO OUNCE RANGE WITH MOST OPERATORS SIELED IN AHEAD OF WEDNESDAY'S GROUP OF SEVEN (G7) MEETING IN WASHINGTON AND THURSDAY'S U.S. FEBRUARY TRADE FIGURES, DEALERS SAID.

IT OPENED AT 450.40/450.90 DOLLARS FOLLOWING OVERNIGHT GAINS IN THE U.S., BUT AN EARLY RETRACTION IN FUTURES TODAY SAW LONDON CLOSE JUST BELOW ITS HIGH OF 451.50/452.00 DOLLARS. GOLD WAS FIXED AT 450.20 AND 450.80 DOLLARS DURING THE RESPECTIVE SESSIONS.

London Money Market

LONDON, APRIL 12, REUTER - MONEY RATES ENDED AROUND 1/16 POINT HIGHER AS STERLING FELL BACK ON THE FOREIGN EXCHANGES AND TRADING WAS LACKLUSTRE AHEAD OF TOMORROW'S GROUP OF SEVEN MEETING AND THURSDAY'S U.S. TRADE DATA.

HOWEVER, DEALERS SAID STERLING'S ATTRACTION MAY HAVE FADED ONLY TEMPORARILY AND IF THE DOLLAR COMES UNDER PRESSURE AS A RESULT OF THE TRADE REPORT, A FURTHER TEST OF THE 3.14 MARK BARRIER COULD BE SEEN IN THE NEAR TERM.

IF THIS HAPPENS, THEY SAID, A FURTHER INTEREST RATE CUT CANNOT BE RULED OUT, BUT AT PRESENT MARKET RATES ARE TRADING AROUND LEVELS COMPATIBLE WITH CURRENT EIGHT PCT BASE RATES.

Foreign Exchange

OLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPEN
OLR	1.8520/30	1.6845/55	5.7120/70	
STG	1.8530/40	3.1170/1205	10.5795/5930	
DMK	1.6802/6882	3.115/129	29.41/57	
FFR	5.7055/7175	10.594/612	338.84/339.4	
SFR	1.3943/3953	2.5831/5863	82.75/85	
HFL	1.8900	3.5060	112.215	
ECU	1.23173	0.664545	2.07510	
SDR	1.37320	0.738796	2.31219	
YEN	126.40/50	234.21/54		
SDR RATES	11/04/1988	OTHERS	12/04/1988	

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
AUSTRALIA	288.8	282.1	279.0	259.3
AUSTRIA	208.7	205.6	206.3	215.4
BELGIUM	375.7	374.7	372.8	365.7
CANADA	372.5	371.3	370.2	350.7
DENMARK	383.9	380.8	380.8	336.6

Japan to make new proposal to ease debt crisis

IMF meetings to focus on debt

WASHINGTON, April 12. (Reuters) With leading industrial nations convinced there is no need to change exchange rates, finance officials gathering today for a series of meetings this week, were focusing on the world debt problem.

Last year's angry economic policy disputes among major nations have been replaced by a glow of harmony, allowing officials to turn their attention to the even more intractable problem of Third World debt.

Japan's Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, speaking in Tokyo before leaving for Washington, said he would make a new proposal to ease the debt crisis.

Scheme
International Monetary Fund (IMF) officials have already worked out a new scheme to provide more aid to debtor countries in time for this week's semi-annual meetings of the Fund and World Bank.

"We are pleased that a great deal of progress has been accomplished in the lead up to these meetings," a senior US Treasury official said. "Important progress has been made with major debtors."

The new IMF pool of funds would compensate countries that are trying to restructure their economies for a rise in interest rates that increases their debt burden.

The proposal is in line with Washington's carrot-and-stick approach to the debt crisis, which it said to market-oriented reforms.

Measures
But such restructuring, involving politically difficult belt-tightening measures such as public spending, is already unpopular in many Third World countries, which are likely to take a mixed view of the new aid facility.

The formal IMF meetings begin on Thursday and will be preceded by a gathering of finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations.

Miyazawa said he did not expect the Group of Seven—the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Canada and Italy—to take any new currency initiatives but to confirm a policy coordination statement made last December.

Officials from other G-7 countries have also been at pains to stress their satisfaction with

recent currency stability, trying to avoid raising expectations in the financial markets that any new deal on exchange or interest rates is at hand.

"It is just going to be a routine meeting and we are all trying to keep expectations to a minimum," one central banker said in Switzerland on Monday. "Everyone wanted a stable dollar and we have got it."

Crash
The official claim is based on the view that the world economy has held up surprisingly well since last October's stock market crash.

The general assessment of the situation is more confident than four weeks ago. It is more and more obvious that economic development in most industrial countries is stronger than it was feared and expected at the end of the year," the banker said.

Outspoken US criticism of West German monetary policy last October was one of the causes of the stock market crash and subsequent fall in the dollar, as it gave financial markets the impression that international cooperation to solve world trade and economic imbalances was

unravelling.

But a senior US Treasury official praised West German economic policy on Monday, as the Bonn government raised its forecast for growth this year to over two per cent, and Japan announced a fall in its trade surplus.

The critical tones of the Group of Seven officials are likely to be reserved for the newly industrialised countries of Asia such as Taiwan and South Korea.

Their booming economies have given them substantial trade surpluses with the US so that Washington now wants them to revalue their currencies to make their exports dearer and American imports cheaper.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF), whose policies have frequently been blamed for social and political upheaval in poor countries, is striving to shed its image as a harsh enforcer of economic austerity.

Under the leadership of Michel Camdessus, formerly governor of the Bank of France, the IMF is trying to make it easier for governments to implement the tough economic reforms that the fund prescribes in return for emergency financial assistance.

The fund is an anathema in broad areas of the Third World. Slogans denouncing the IMF are common throughout Latin America. In 1984, over 50 people were killed in the Dominican Republic in riots touched off by price increases that the fund had ordered. In 1985, the Sudanese government was toppled by the military after the IMF suspended loans.

Advice
Fear of such turmoil deters many governments from seeking timely advice from the fund. By procrastinating, their economic problems worsen and the medicine the fund eventually has to order is stronger.

Camdessus wants to break this vicious circle by giving countries more time to reform their economies, streamlining the conditions attached to loans and assuring borrowers in advance that they will be protected from external shocks such as soaring interest rates or slumping commodity prices.

To finance the more active role he envisages, Camdessus, who took over the helm of the fund in 1987, wants a 50 per cent rise in the IMF's capital base, now \$90 billion.

New international body to guarantee investment

WASHINGTON, April 12. (AP) Creation of a new worldwide body to insure private investors against loss from war and other hostile action was due to be announced today by Barber Conable, president of the World Bank.

The object is to attract more direct investment to Third World countries to build industries they need so they can produce more goods, create jobs and make more payments on their debts. New investments would also reduce the need to add to their existing debt, now over \$1 trillion.

The new agency will have an initial capital of \$1.082 billion, but only 10 per cent of that will be paid in cash by the member governments.

Participation
It will be called the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), with the aim of bringing in all the 151 governments that own the bank. Switzerland has also signed the agreement, although it is not in the bank.

MIGA's immediate future was assured when Congress voted \$44 million for US participation

at the end of last year. The US contribution will be the largest.

Ratification by the US government was delayed by negotiations over a congressional requirement that investments should not be guaranteed for the production of goods already in over-supply. Many members in Congress are wary of international action that could reduce US exports.

Insurance
The United States already has its own agency to insure American investors, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation. MIGA's services will be available to an investor from any member country. Citizens of a host country can also be protected if they bring home assets from abroad.

That provision is designed to help solve a major problem in the Third World: the flight of billions of dollars that their citizens have sent to the United States and other havens considered safer than their own territory.

In addition to protecting investors against war and civil disturbances, the agency's insurance policies will cut a com-

pany's losses if the government of a country where the money is invested.

— Restricts the right to take money out of the country
— Expropriates property
— Repudiates a contract.

Other risks can also be covered by a decision of the agency's board of directors.

MIGA will have its own board, separate from the World Bank, but Conable will be its president. He is a former Republican Congressman from New York state.

Exporters

There are two kinds of member governments: capital importers, the majority, and capital exporters, including the United States, which are the minority. The minority will be protected for the first three years. After that the organisers will try to give equal votes to the two groups.

The agreement would come into existence when it had ratifications from five capital exporters and 15 capital importers. The US ratification provided the necessary number. At the beginning of this year, 62 governments had signed the agreement, of which 23 had ratified it.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, April 12. (Reuters) Shares closed lower after light profit-taking in low turnover. The energy sector was one of the few to escape the downward pressure. The All Ordinaries index fell 6.1 points to 1,447.7.

TOKYO: Prices closed mixed due to caution ahead of the Group of Seven meeting and release of US trade data. The Nikkei index rose 5.97 points to 26,930.84.

HONG KONG: Prices closed slightly lower on light profit-taking as the market consolidated its recent gains. The Hang Seng index fell 15.07 to 2,635.94.

SINGAPORE: Prices closed narrowly mixed after sporadic profit-taking alternating with selected speculative buying interest. The Straits Times index fell 0.37 to 946.11.

BOMBAY: Heavy institutional buying stopped a slide in share prices and helped them recover in brisk trading. Tata Steel rose 10 rupees to 673.75.

ZURICH: Prices closed steady in moderate turnover, with the market hardly reacting to the firm dollar and positive trend on Wall Street. The All-Share Swiss index was down 2.4 to 834.2.

FRANKFURT: Shares could not add to yesterday's gains. The market closed mixed but with a firm bias as fresh orders failed to materialise after a positive opening. The Commerzbank index, set at mid-session, rose 16.6 to 1,423.8.

NEW YORK: Stocks were narrowly mixed in early trading. The Dow was unchanged at 2,096.

Adnoc training to promote oil sector skills

ABU DHABI, April 12. (Opecna) A new batch of trainees completed their course at the training and career development centre of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company last week.

Khalaf Al Otaiba, director of Adnoc's marketing department, said at their graduation that the training was "part and parcel" of the comprehensive plan to promote technical and administrative skills in the oil industry.

He added that Adnoc's training was to develop manpower skills and upgrade productivity. The training and career centre was set up in 1978 to meet the needs of the company and prepare trained manpower for other companies, including Abu Dhabi Gas Company (Adgas).

THE tenders summarized below are invited by the Central Tenders Committee on behalf of Government Ministries and other concerned authorities. The relevant documents may be obtained from the office of the Central Tenders Committee during office hours against payment of non-refundable fees as shown therein. Unless otherwise stipulated all relevant offers shall remain valid for a period of 90 days with effect from the closing date.

Tender No. 17-87/88
Tender's internal No. 816/88
Concerned party: Municipality of Kuwait

Requirements: Supply of photostat machines, typewriters and calculators.
Relevant fee: KD30/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday, 1.5.88

Tender No. PT/24/88/88
Tender's internal No. 810/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Education

Requirements: Supply and installation of central air conditioning units for 7 schools in 2nd area.
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday, 22.5.88

Tender No. PA/SH. A.M. 37-88/88
Tender's internal No. 817/88
Concerned party: Public Authority for Applied Education & Training

Requirements: Completion works of several maintenance of Boys Commercial Studies College Hall.
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday, 22.5.88

Tender No. MT/3/88
Tender's internal No. 815/88
Concerned party: Petrochemical Industries Co.

Requirements: Supply of air drier for instruments.
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday, 22.5.88

Tender No. MT/4/88
Tender's internal No. 814/88
Concerned party: Petrochemical Industries Co.

Requirements: Supply of chemical materials (600 kg potassium meth-
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday, 22.5.88

Tender No. PA/SH. A.M. 37-88/88
Tender's internal No. 817/88
Concerned party: Public Authority for Applied Education & Training

Requirements: Cleaning works of Administration Building & Offices

Dollar steadies and sterling drops

LONDON, April 12. (Reuters) The dollar steadied in Europe today and dealers said its short-term fate hinged largely on the outcome of a meeting in Washington on Wednesday of finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations.

The pound sterling declined again, still suffering from the effects of British interest rate cuts announced on Friday in a bid to deflect some of the speculative funds drawn to British investments over the past month by relatively high rates.

"We had a little bit of movement early on but since then the market has fallen asleep," said a senior West German bank dealer in Frankfurt. "The mood is one of wait-and-see."

Mixed
Shares were mixed in Europe with London failing to sustain an early rise after New York on Monday and Tokyo today edged ahead only slightly after strong gains over the past week.

But the Dow Jones industrial average at 2,095.99 points, up 5.8 points, still represented its highest level since last October's crash.

And the Tokyo Nikkei

Average's Tuesday finish at 26,930.84, up 5.97 points, was another all-time record.

Oil prices steadied around Monday's highs which were about one dollar up on last week — boosted by weekend news that Opec members would meet several non-Opec producers in Vienna on April 23 and convene a special ministerial meeting two days later to discuss over-production which is keeping oil prices down.

Good
Widely traded British Brent crude from the North Sea traded in mid-morning at \$16.53 a barrel for May delivery after closing in London on Monday at \$16.27.

Gold was fixed in London this morning at \$450.20 an ounce against Monday afternoon's \$448.80.

The dollar held firm at around 1.6850 West German marks and just over 126.50 Japanese yen, little changed from Monday night. The pound slipped half a cent to just below \$1.85 and one pence to 3.1156 marks, continuing the post-interest-rate-cut decline that set in at midday on Friday.

Dealers in London said they still felt sterling remained a good

buy on interest rate differentials between Britain and other major non-Communist nations despite Fridays' half-percentage-point base rate cut to eight per cent.

They saw its short-term fate as being determined largely by the dollar, itself dependent on the outcome of the routine G-7 meeting in Washington which is being held in the context of the International Monetary Fund's spring meeting this week.

A widespread market view only yield a statement in favour of currency stability was reinforced today, Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who told a news conference the group was not expected to take any new initiative on currencies.

Improvement
US trade data for February due out on Thursday was also keenly awaited by dealers. They said an improvement on January's \$12.44 billion deficit was generally expected and some forecast a single digit figure.

They drew attention to remarks by US Trade Representative Clayton Yentler to computer and communications conference in Washington on Monday that the US trade deficit has turned around and that it would

swing back into surplus in five years.

On other European bourses, share values were mixed. West German stocks opened higher in quiet trading, helped by the firmer dollar which gave a boost to export-oriented companies. At midday the Boersen-Zeitung index was 2.1 points up at 304.38.

French and Dutch shares were easier in featureless trading amid investor caution ahead of the G-7 meeting and the US trade data, dealers said.

In London, share prices drifted to their lows in quiet afternoon trading, with today's early 9.6 point gain in the FTSE 100 index all but wiped out as Wall Street failed to make headway at the opening today, dealers said.

Dealers said investor reluctance to establish new positions ahead of Wednesday's Group of Seven meeting in Washington largely accounted for today's slow volume.

"We're not really expecting too much out of Washington tomorrow but we do want to be pleasantly surprised," one trader remarked. Dealers mostly expect the G-7 meeting will result in a statement in favour of currency stability rather than producing any new initiative on currencies.

Samtel profits on the rise

SAMTEL (India) Limited, within four years of going public has shown excellent performance results during the last year. The board of directors have recommended a dividend of 25 per cent on equity shares. The board has further recommended issue of bonus shares in the ratio of one for every three shares held including rights shares for which money was received from shareholders in December, 1987 and allotment made at the end of February, 1988.

Sales
During the year 1987, the company's sales increased to Rs. 48.98 crores over the corresponding sales of Rs. 30.62 crores in 1986 — showing an increase of 60 per cent. The gross profit in 1987 was Rs. 4.41 crores compared to the last year figure of Rs. 3.25 crores, an increase of 36 per cent. Depreciation, interest and tax in 1987 was Rs. 1.12 crores (Rs. 1.00 crore in 1986), Rs. 1.85 crores (Rs. 1.88 crores in 1986) and Rs. 0.65 crore (nil in 1986) respectively. In spite of provision for taxation during 1987 for Rs. 0.5 crore, profits after tax available for appropriation was Rs. 2.64

crores against Rs. 2.25 crores in 1986, showing an increase of 17 per cent.

The company's profit history has been remarkable. Profits during the last four years have been Rs. 0.26 crore in 1983-84, Rs. 1.97 crores in 1984-85 (17 months), Rs. 2.25 crores in 1986 and Rs. 2.64 in 1987.

Products
To finance its rapid expansion, the company has had two rights issues — one in 1986 (1:2) and the other in 1987 (1:3). With the present quoted price of Rs. 59/-, an investment of Rs. 1,000/- in shares (including rights) in 1984 has grown to Rs. 3,371/- apart from dividend. In spite of high dividend on its equity capital during the last two years the break-up value of the shares has increased from Rs. 10/- per share in 1984 to Rs. 42.10/- at the end of December, 1987.

Set up in 1983, to manufacture black and white picture tubes, Samtel (India) has rapidly grown over the years by adding different products in its range and increasing its capacity manifolds. Its product range now include TV

picture tubes ranging from 12" to 20" to computer grade tubes. Starting with a capacity to produce 300,000 tubes per annum, it touched 1,600,000 tubes per annum in 1987. Work is in hand to further increase it to 1,200,000 by end of 1988, taking its total capacity to 2,800,000 tubes per annum.

The largest producer of black and white picture tubes in India, the Samtel Group is also unique by virtue of its horizontal diversification ventures. The group manufactures electron guns and assembly of glass bulbs, both of which are critical inputs in picture tubes.

Diversification
And now, the group has major diversification programmes on the anvil. Colour picture tubes will soon be manufactured by Samtel Colour in collaboration with Mitsubishi Electric Corporation. The range would include the latest 21" FST and 14" colour tubes.

Samtel (India) is poised for substantial growth. Backed by an impressive track record, it is best placed to be the company of the future.

Chevron to market Pertamina's aromatic products

JAKARTA, April 12. (Opecna) The marketing of petrochemical products to be produced by the aromatic plant at the Cilacap refinery of Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil company, will be handled by Chevron Chemicals of the United States under an agreement between the two firms.

The plant, now being constructed by a Japanese consortium, is designed with an annual production capacity of 270,000 tons of paraxylene and 110,000 tons of benzene.

Output
According to Edward Kura, vice president of Chevron Chemicals, his company will handle the marketing of 170,000 tons of the paraxylene output and the entire 110,000 tons of benzene production.

The project, scheduled to come onstream by 1991, will be partly financed by Mitsui Company of Japan.

Ecuador to sign 4 oil pacts

QUITO, April 12. (Opecna) Ecuador will this month sign four agreements with foreign firms and consortia which were awarded oil exploration and development rights in several regions of the country, according to the ministry of energy and mines here.

One of the agreements will involve an investment of \$58 million on an oil exploration and development programme to be launched in a 300,000-hectare area in the Amazon region by a consortium comprising Unocsa, Union Pacific and Nedlloyd Energy.

Another contract will be with Fred Parks, which is to invest \$7.25 million to drill three exploratory wells in a 330,000-hectare area in the Guayas province.

In the Progreso zone of the Guayas province the Argentinian oil company Yacimientos Petroliferos Fiscales will launch a prospecting programme.

The fourth agreement will be with the consortium formed by Arco, Agip and Demoson oil companies, which plan to drill two exploratory wells in a 200,000-hectare area in the Amazon region.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 12.4.88			
B.No.	Ship's Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Sammi Blonde	Al Qutub	4747815
3	Arafat	KSA	4843150
4	Hui Yang	Mohd Bahar	2433881
8	Felix	Al Sawan	4746018
9	Tug Ahn Samir	Gulf Star	4845501
11	Barge Maryam	Gulf Star	4845501
12	Barge Al Jaber 17	Algh Barber	4842988
13	Tug Gulf Express	Algh Barber	4842988
13	Maersk	Behbehani	2412085
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship's Name	Agent	Tel. No.
12/4	Dhauia Giri	Transcoast	2436920
13/4	Corriedale Express	Gh. Qutub	4747815
13/4	Cosmobi Ace	Marafi	2465645
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIB PORT			
B.No.	Ship's Name	Agent	Tel. No.
3	Uco-XVII	S. Shabane	2432692
6	Ionian Express	Gh. Barber	4842988
7	Kol	Al Qutub	4747815
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIB PORT			
ETA	Ship's Name	Agent	Tel. No.
11/4	Torbay	KMMC	2419814
11/4	Dubai	UASC	4843150
12/4	Wave Crest	RSMS	2423642
12/4	Xanadu	ISA	2441860
13/4	Trade Freedom	M.A. Bahar	2433881
15/4	Adriatic	UASC	4843150
18/4	Providence Bay	KMMC	2419814
18/4	Ahu Basma	RSMS	2423642
19/4	Tokyo Bridge	Rashed	2422026

COMPILED BY Alghanim Barber Shipping Co. WLL, PO Box 21708 Safat, Alghanim Industries Bldg, Airport Road, Shuwaikh. Phone 4842988/4843988, extn. 3614/3628.

GOVERNMENT TENDERS

Tender No. PA/SH. A.M. 37-88/88
Tender's internal No. 817/88
Concerned party: Public Authority for Applied Education & Training

Requirements: Cleaning works of Administration Building & Offices

Relevant fee: KD20
Initial guarantee: 5% of offer's value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday, 1.5.88

Qualified Tenderers:
1. Al Abha Cleaning Circle Co.
2. United Shipping, Trdg., & Contg. Services Co.
3. Tanzioco Est.
4. National Cleaning Co.
5. Abdul Hameed Salem Trdg. Est.
6. Ibrahim Samhan Trdg. & Cleaning Contg. Est.

Tender No. MT/1988/87
Tender's internal No. 126/88
Concerned party: Kuwait Oil Company

Requirements: Cleaning works & relevant services of main office building, offices, houses workshops in Alhamdi rented flats of the company.

Relevant fee: KD30
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2% of offers value
Closing date: 22.5.88, 12 noon Sunday

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1. Al Abha Cleaning Circle Co.
2. United Shipping, Trdg., & Contg. Services Co.
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Conflict between preservation and human needs

Tiger conservation takes human toll

By Adam Kellither

ARAMPUR, India, (UPI): Nemai Haldar, a wiry sun-scoured fisherman, will never forget the day a Bengal tiger mauled his partner to death and then tried to drag the bloodied body into the jungle to eat.

"I wrestled the dead man from the tiger," said Haldar, 35, who bears a livid scar on his arm from the incident three years ago. "When a tiger attacks, you only know when it is upon you, not before."

Haldar's friend was one of more than 600 people killed by the big cats since 1973, when the government set aside a 1,500 square mile tiger preserve in the Sunderbans, a vast swathe of jungle in West Bengal traversed by countless tributaries of the Ganges river.

Tiger attacks also have claimed hundreds of lives in the other 14 areas of India where preserves were established under 'Project Tiger', a programme aimed at saving India's tigers from extinction.

In pursuing the altruistic goal of saving the tigers, the 15-year-old programme has closed to some of India's poorest people huge areas abundant in free food and fuel.

Nowhere is the conflict between preservation and human need more evident than in Arampur, a 150-family hamlet on the edge of the Sunderbans (which means 'beautiful forest') preservation area. It can be reached by a six-hour car and boat trip from Calcutta.

Tigers have eaten about 50 fishermen — the sole profession of the impoverished villagers — prompting locals to repudiate the settlement. Vidhwanpara, Bengali for 'the abode of windows'.

"The tigers should be killed," said Anjana Biswas, 60, whose husband, brother-in-law and nephew all have been con-



About 40,000 tigers inhabited India in 1900, but excessive hunting and poaching reduced the population to 2,000.

sumed. "Sons are the illuminating feature of our life, and the tigers have extinguished the lamps in our village."

Authorities provide 5,000 rupees (\$385) compensation to next of kin in a tiger death, but must of the village women clad in white mourning saris said they were forced to depend on friends and relatives for survival.

Project Tiger officials appreciate the economic pressures that encourage an expanding population to enter the sanctuary for its ending resources, but say they will not open the nature reserve.

"Given a choice, everyone would want to have free access to a strongroom in bank, but this is not possible," said Arin

Ghosh, Project Tiger's local director. "Our efforts have turned the area into a nursery. If we let people into the core, the ecosystem would be disturbed."

About 40,000 tigers inhabited India in 1900, but excessive hunting and poaching reduced the population to about 2,000. Project Tiger has succeeded in rebuilding the population to about 4,000, officials said.

Some 300 tigers now prowl the Sunderbans. But Ghosh denied that attacks have increased with the population surge. He said more people were killed before the project began, when tigers roamed over wider areas.

A tiger typically singles out

one member of a group and may stalk its prey for up to two days before pouncing on the victim from behind. Only one in 10 people attacked survive, usually in rare incidents when the tiger is spotted before it springs.

"The whole operation takes a few seconds," said Ghosh. "We must look at human beings as another form of animal. Because of the occupation of the people of the Sunderbans, they make themselves easy prey to the tigers."

The fishermen cast nets in small creeks and are attacked when they wade in beside the dense foliage to retrieve their catch. Wood and honey gatherers are mauled as they forage deep in the jungle.

"I ask the men, their wives ask them, not to go back into the jungles," said Sarala Mullick, 55, whose husband was eaten by a tiger 10 years ago. "But they must. It is their livelihood. They are born fishermen."

Officials said about two years ago tigers were killing more than 100 people annually — a rate they said was unmatched anywhere in the world. This prompted innovative steps to dampen the beasts' taste for human flesh.

Any person entering the Sunderbans sanctuary must wear a mask of a human face on the back of his head. This is said to make a tiger believe it is being watched as it stalks its victim from behind.

Honey and wood collectors also deter attacks by wearing fiberglass backpacks studded with sharp spikes. Among the bushes sit human dummies that give a stunning electric shock if bitten.

Officials said the tactics have made the tigers wary of attacking humans, with only 31 deaths in the Sunderbans recorded in 1987, the last six months ago.

Re-introducing animals to freedom

In the past, when zoos needed to replace an animal, they could just buy another pulled from the wild. But as a growing number of species have become depleted in their native habitats, zoos have had to become skilled at breeding the animals themselves.

By Timothy Aeppel

FRONT ROYAL, Va.: Pushing open the cage door sends the tiny monkeys inside scrambling for cover.

"They have to be taught everything, even how to peel a banana and look behind leaves for hives," says Mike Morgan, a spokesman for the National Zoo, which runs the sprawling research complex here devoted to breeding and studying rare animals.

These golden-lion tamarins — named for their lion-like plumes of orange hair — are being groomed for the South American jungle. The animals, which have never been outside a zoo to their lives, will eventually be flown to Brazil and released into the rain forest in which the species once thrived.

They're just one of several species being "reintroduced" to the wild in countries around the world. Others include the Arabian oryx in Oman, the Pere David's deer in China, and an exotic bird called the Jalak Bali in Indonesia.

The rise of reintroduction programmes underscores a fundamental shift in the way zoos do business. These programmes are costly and controversial and hold the allure of putting depleted species back into nature.

In the past, when zoos needed to replace an animal, they could just buy another pulled from the wild. But as a growing number of species have become depleted in their native habitats, zoos have had to become skilled at breeding the animals themselves. New reproductive technologies and a greater understanding of the biology of exotic animals have been crucial to this development.

Today, animals living in different zoos are managed as though they were one large colony, with mates sometimes transferred thousands of miles, so that the population maintains genetic diversity.

Reintroductions carry this trend toward close management of endangered species

one step further, using well-established zoo population to restock the wild. The golden-lion tamarin, for instance, now has a self-sustaining captive population of about 500 animals in 90 zoos worldwide.

Before being released into the wild, small groups of the squirrel-size primates are given survival training, such as being shown how to forage for food. At last count, two dozen captive-born animals were living in Brazilian jungle preserves closely monitored by scientists.

Typical "training" procedures include offering the animals a wider variety of foods and hiding food around the animals' cage, forcing them to search it out the way they would in the jungle. Cage interiors are designed to include plenty of unstable branches, hunches of leaves, and other details that condition the monkeys for moving around unfamiliar surroundings.

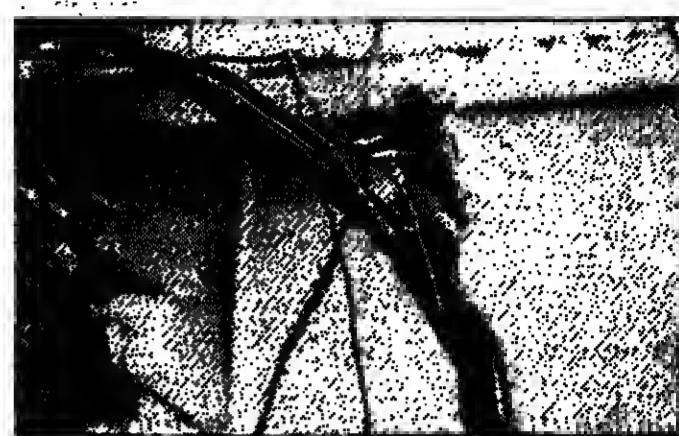
"After the first year, we realised that the animals were klutzy — they didn't know how to move through the trees," says Devra Kleiman, associate director for research at the National Zoo.

The animals even had to be coaxed to go out on narrow branches, she says, since most zoo interiors had large, stable branches.

"These sorts of programmes can't be undertaken by a single institution — so they literally force cooperation," says Richard Block, director of public programmes at the World Wildlife Fund.

Eleven United States zoos contributed to the reintroduction of the Jalak Bali in Indonesia, for example. The effort began when it was found that the wild population of the birds had dwindled to about 60, while zoos in North America had more than 500 and could readily breed more. The US zoos agreed to produce 40 surplus birds last year, which were sent to a zoo in Surabaya, Indonesia.

If all goes as planned, offspring from this breeding colony will be released into a national



A golden-lion tamarin takes a break from survival training at the National Zoo in Washington.

park on the island of Bali this spring.

"Captivity changes the behavior of animals," as you can't just dump them into the wild, says Chris Wemmer, head of the Conservation and Research Centre in rural Virginia. The centre, an agency of the Smithsonian Institution's National Zoological Park in Washington, is a vast laboratory for working with endangered species, only some of which are earmarked for reintroduction.

In a valley outside Dr Wemmer's office, a herd of highly endangered Pere David's deer gather behind a clump of trees to avoid the bitter January wind.

According to Wemmer, reintroductions have been attempted with at least 60 different vertebrates, ranging from the peregrine falcon to the musk ox.

As early as the 1890s, an American naturalist began releasing hand-reared snowy egrets into newly created habitat in the Mississippi Delta. And in Europe, a programme to reintroduce captive-bred eagle owls has been under way since World War II.

But even advocates of reintroduction are quick to point out its limitations.

Only a tiny fraction of species can be saved through such programmes. Often, the reason the animal disappeared in the first place makes reintroduction impractical. When wilderness is cleared for farmland, for instance, it may become impossible to find enough suitable habitat.

"These are also very costly programmes, so you can't afford to do a lot of them," Wemmer says. The golden-lion

tamarin programme, for instance, costs more than \$100,000 a year.

Some analysts worry about spending such large amounts on highly endangered species — some of which appear destined to become extinct no matter how hard scientists try to prevent it. The same money directed toward protecting habitats might accomplish more in the long run, some critics say.

Others question the ethics of tampering so heavily with wild animals. Many objected last year, for example, when biologists captured the last of the free-flying California condors. The birds were added to a breeding programme that appears years away from putting any creatures back into the wild.

With the golden-lion tamarin, the first step toward reintroduction was figuring out how to keep the animal from going extinct in captivity. By the early 1970s, there were only about 70 animals in captivity and not many more than that living in fragments of jungle in Brazil.

Nobody was sure why the animals didn't breed well in captivity. Then researchers began experimenting with new ideas in managing the animals. They changed the animals' diet to match more closely what they eat in the wild and began allowing them to live in family groups, rather than the usual mixed breeding colonies.

"We're still learning every day about these animals," says one researcher working on the project. Each new piece of information helps add to the picture, he says, and helps ensure the survival of the species. The Christian Science Monitor.

By Tan Ball

A TRANSATLANTIC row over the world's oldest fish is splitting world naturalists into two camps.

On one side are the New York Aquarium officials, who have set out to capture and transport a live coelacanth to their tanks on Coney Island; on the other are conservative scientists who consider the idea a threat to a precious species that has survived 350 million years.

The "good guys," environmentally speaking, are a group of West German naturalists who last year used a small submarine to film the coelacanth for the first time in its ocean floor habitat off the Comoros Islands in the Indian Ocean.

They could easily have captured one, or even a breeding pair, with their specially equipped vessel, but refrained from doing so on the grounds that they might start a coelacanth rush among trendy, PR-conscious world aquariums which could lead to the fish's extinction.

"We are just as interested in safeguarding the coelacanth," replied Louis Garibaldi, acting director of the New York Aquarium and a leader of the campaign to snare a coelacanth and bring it back alive to the aquarium.

"Dr Haas Fricke (the fish expert at Germany's Max Planck Institute for Comparative Physiology who bitterly opposes the New York expedition) is entitled to his opinion that these animals cannot be kept alive in captivity. We believe otherwise. Many animals that are extremely sen-

Naturalists row over world's oldest fish

The West German naturalists, who last year filmed the coelacanth in its natural habitat in the Indian Ocean, are opposing the New York Aquarium officials who have set out to catch a live coelacanth for their tanks.



The coelacanth is over 350 million years old

sitive to changes in habitat have been kept alive."

The 5ft-long coelacanth, the only fish with primitive legs — bones and joints in four of its fins that prompted the Comoro fishermen to dub it the "walking fish" — is said to be a relatively easy catch for an expedition adequately equipped.

Although Dr Fricke's group is in a position to carry out the New York Aquarium's assignment, its leader vehemently rejects the idea. He is planning another submarine photographic expedition this June to add to his extraordinary archive of photographs and films of the coelacanth cavorting in the cold, deep waters surrounding the island nation of Comoros.

He succeeded for the first time last year in photographing the weird movements and feeding habits of this survivor from the Mesozoic era. For Dr Fricke's cameras, coelacanths performed beadstands on the sea bed and demonstrated how they can swim upside-down as the move lazily along the ocean floor.

"It's outrageous," Dr Fricke said of the aquarium's plans.

"I don't believe it's possible to keep one of these animals alive in captivity, after the trauma it undergoes being caught at a great depth, being readily de-pressurised and then being exposed to warm surface water that disrupts its mechanism for absorbing oxygen."

"More important, if a

coelacanth ever should reach an aquarium alive, other aquariums will try to get their own specimens, and these fish are not numerous enough to survive the toll that would be taken."

"Already we see the Comoro fishermen responding to the economic incentives scientists have created. They are changing their techniques, consciously trying to catch more coelacanths."

An obscure coelacanth black market has been created. The carcasses of the specimens caught by the Comoran islanders are frozen and sold for good money by island exporters to touch with foreign scientists.

The island government offers a bounty of \$200 (£110) to fishermen who bring in a coelacanth, but most go after the far higher price offered on a standing basis by Comoran businessmen.

All this is happening on the golden anniversary of the first catch of a coelacanth, an event that created a sensation among naturalists. Until a Comoran fisherman brought his catch to the surface in 1938, the species was believed to have died out 90 million years ago.

Coelacanths previously were known from abundant fossils. Since 1938, only a few dozen have been caught, all by commercial fishermen.

Some naturalists say that close relatives of modern coelacanths may have evolved about 350 million years ago into the first land-dwelling amphibians, and thus were a link to the evolution of all land vertebrates, including Homo sapiens.

Hawks attack with human-like cunning



Hawks attack with the precision of a military unit

Professor James Bednarz, after more than 400 hours of observation in the New Mexico desert has the first documented proof that hawks are able to cooperate in organising themselves into hunting groups.

By Adrian Berry

HAWKS attack their prey with an almost human-like cunning. They bluff and feint and lay traps "with the precision of a military unit," a scientist who has spent hundreds of hours watching them hunt said at the weekend.

This was the first documented proof that hawks are able to cooperate in organising themselves into hunting groups, said Prof James Bednarz, research director of the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Kempton, Pennsylvania, in a report in a recent issue of 'Science'.

In more than 400 hours of observation in the New Mexico desert, he was able "to his amazement" to see groups of five to six hawks use two basic co-ordinated attacks to bring down rabbits.

In the most common tactic, which he called the "surprise pounce," the desert hawks attacked a rabbit from several directions at once, forcing it to stay away from cover.

"They will work the rabbit in such a way that it becomes mentally and physically exhausted," he said. "They keep it

moving and making decisions until it makes the wrong one."

If the rabbit once left its back unprotected, a hawk would swoop and deliver a lethal slashing blow to the back of the neck. That was the only way that the hawk, which weighed less than two pounds, could kill a jack rabbit weighing up to seven pounds.

Another tactic which he observed was even more unexpected. He called it the "flush and ambush."

A team of hawks would chase a rabbit until it took cover in a burrow. Two or three hawks would perch nearby while two more entered the burrow and chased the rabbit out. Then the perched hawks would drop swiftly for the kill.

"Eaten the rabbit burrow is a bluff," Prof Bednarz said, "because the tunnels are too narrow for the hawks to kill in them. But the rabbit doesn't know this and it stupidly flees into the open air."

The birds seemed to communicate with body movement. As the hunt began, they would be hundreds of yards apart. But when one sighted a possible meal, it flapped its wings in a way that attracted its fellows and the hunt was on.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

FOETUS DEVELOPS OUTSIDE UTERUS IN ECTOPIC PREGNANCY

QUESTION: I know I've heard the term, always with a bad meaning, but I'm really not sure I understand it at all. What is meant by an "ectopic pregnancy"? What makes it so dangerous that doctors always seem very concerned?

ANSWER: Ectopic means "out of place." An ectopic pregnancy is when the foetus starts to develop anywhere except in the uterus. The most common site of an ectopic pregnancy is the fallopian tube, but it also can occur in the ovary, in the entrance to the tube, at the point the tube joins the uterus and at the mouth of the uterus.

Ectopic pregnancies are dangerous because only the uterus can expand with a growing foetus. A growing foetus will burst a fallopian tube within a few weeks. This usually kills the fetus and the mother. Although there have been instances of a healthy baby growing outside the uterus, it is an event bordering on the miraculous. Ectopic pregnancy is a major cause of death during pregnancy. Less seriously, it can result in the loss of a fallopian tube and sterility.

Many ectopic pregnancies abort spontan-

eously, before the tube ruptures. The embryo is reabsorbed into the body and the woman may never even know she was pregnant. The symptoms of an ectopic pregnancy include abdominal pain and bleeding from the vagina, and is often confused with appendicitis, an intestinal "bug" or a bladder infection.

The incidence of ectopic pregnancies is rising. This is primarily due to the increase in sexually transmitted diseases, which cause scarring that blocks the tubes. Improvements in testing are also raising the statistics of ectopic pregnancies as they are detected earlier.

QUESTION: My uncle had Lou Gehrig's Disease. Will I get it? How do you know that it's coming?

ANSWER: Lou Gehrig's Disease — technically, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis — is a devastating neuromuscular disorder that strikes adults in the prime of their lives. The disease usually progresses rapidly, killing its victims in two to five years. Right now, little is known of the causes of the disease. Researchers do not believe it is a hereditary disease for the most part. However, they do not rule

out the possibility of genetic predisposition, as there have been cases of a familial form of the disease, affecting more than one member of a family. Without more information about your family relationship, it's hard to give you an absolute answer, but my opinion is that the odds are very much in your favour, and that your chances of being affected by this disease is slim.

Early symptoms usually begin with a weakening in one or both hands. They may begin to twitch and be unresponsive. The muscles in the palms and fingers begin to atrophy and the victim may have difficulty picking up small things or even using a pen or pencil.

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ANDY CAPP

By Smith



ARAB TIMES

Classifieds

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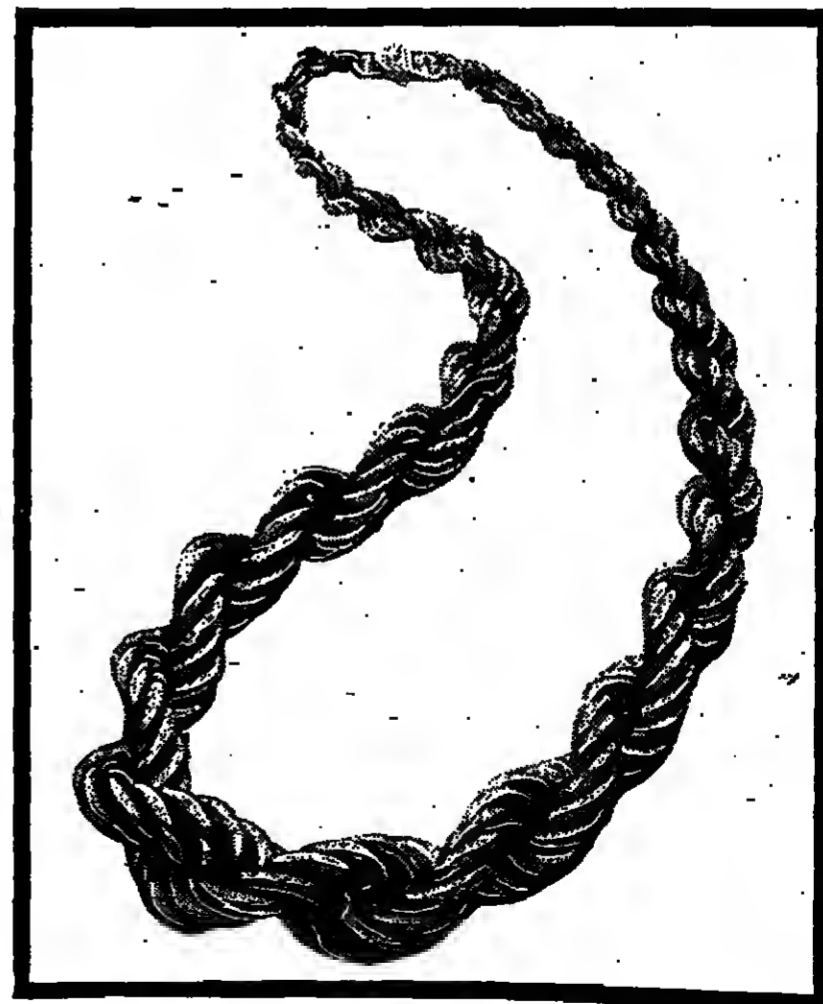
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PIRATES STAY AHEAD OF CUBS

Swindell takes Indians past Orioles

CLEVELAND, April 12, (AP)—Someone should pinch the Cleveland Indians before this thing really gets out of hand.

"You hope it doesn't end, but you know anything can happen," Indians left-hander Greg Swindell said last night after he pitched his second complete game of the season, putting Cleveland in first place in the American League East with a 7-2 victory over the winless Baltimore Orioles.

The victory was Cleveland's sixth straight after losing to Texas on opening day. Coupled with New York's 17-9 loss at Toronto earlier yesterday, it put the Indians a half-game ahead of the 5-1 Yankees. That game was the only other contest in the AL, with Milwaukee at Boston postponed by rain.

Alone
The Indians, off to their best start since 1966, haven't been alone in first at any point in any season since April 16, 1983. They shared first briefly in May 1986. "We're up there all alone," said Swindell, who struck out eight and didn't walk a batter. "It might not last very long, but we might as well enjoy it while we're there. I just want to have fun while I can."

That's realistic talk from someone who saw a portion of Cleveland's 101 losses a year ago. The Indians also are sober



Yankee Ricky Henderson slides past Blue Jays' third baseman Rance Mulliniks. (Reuter wirephoto)

enough to know that their first four-game sweep since 1984 came at the expense of the Orioles, one of baseball's weakest teams. Baltimore's 0-6 start matches its 1955 club record for losses at the beginning of a season, and the Orioles have been outscored 43-7.

Blue Jays 17, Yankees 9
The Yankees suffered their first loss in what nearly was the longest nine-inning game in American League history.

Kelly Gruber hit two home runs, and Rick Leach and Ernie Whit had two RBI apiece in a six-run first inning for Toronto, which had 20 hits.

The Yankees had won their first five games for the club's best start since 1933. The loss spoiled a five-hit, four-stolen base performance by Ricky Henderson.

The game came within a minute of being the longest in AL history at four hours, 15 minutes. The record for a nine-inning

game was 4:16 between the Yankees and Orioles on June 8, 1986. The Major League record is 4:18 in a National League game between Los Angeles and San Francisco in 1962.

"They scored enough runs for three (games) and we scored enough for two," Yankees first baseman Don Mattingly said. "The fans got their money's worth, if time is money."

Reds 4, Giants 0
Mario Soto has learned his lessons well. Some of the educating has come painfully — Soto underwent shoulder surgery and missed all but the first few weeks of last season while on the disabled list.

Soto took a major step in coming back from that hiatus with a strong spring training. After faltering on opening day, the former ace of the Cincinnati pitching staff threw a four-hitter last night in leading the Reds past the San Francisco Giants 4-0.

Soto's shutout was the third in the National League this season. The Giants have lost two of them, the other to Orel Hershiser last week. Kelly Downs has started both of the shutout losses for San Francisco.

Pirates 5, Phillies 1
The Pirates staged a game ahead of the Cubs in the National League East. Certainly, it's early to be talking about standings, but, in Pitts-

burgh, they rarely get to see the top of the division.

Barry Bonds, off to a fast start, tripled and scored in the first inning and hit a solo home run in the third. Mike Lavalliere clinched it with a three-run double in the eighth before the largest home crowd in Pirates' history.

"We're off in a good start and that's great," Pittsburgh manager Jim Leyland said of the 4-2 record. "But I don't emphasize it because if you don't get off to a good start, you can't cancel the season. That's why I don't put a lot of emphasis on a good start or a bad start. It's a 162-game season."

Cubs 6, Cardinals 0
Greg Maddux, who pitched a shutout last week, almost had another one. He blanked St. Louis for eight innings, then Bob Horner doubled for the 1,000th hit of his career and Terry Pendleton singled him home.

But the Cubs already were in control. Maddux also singled, doubled and scored twice in a 13-hit attack.

Chicago, off to its best start since winning seven of its first eight games in 1985, improved to 5-1, the NL East's best record. St. Louis dipped to 1-5.

"I'm learning how to pitch," Maddux said of his quick start. "It's my curveball. I didn't have one last year, so they don't know what to expect."



Tyson (right) and King.

Tyson asserting his independence

NEW YORK, April 12, (Reuter): Now that heavyweight champion Mike Tyson seems to have it all — youth, a shattering dominance of the ring, a beautiful wife and a child on the way — he wants to take control of his financial life, too.

"Tyson is bringing in his lawyer and accountant to look at things," Al Braverman, a spokesman for promoter Don King, said yesterday.

Details
Braverman said that Tyson, 21, had asked King — promoter of Tyson's title defense on June 27 against Michael Spinks — to explain the financial details of the fight.

"They had a long meeting in Los Angeles over the weekend," Braverman said.

He would not give specifics, saying only that, "they covered everything."

Tyson, whose management team of Bill Cayton and the late Jim Jacobs helped make him at 21 the youngest heavyweight champion in history, is guaranteed well over \$20 million for the Spinks fight, a spokesman for Cayton said.

Spinks will receive \$13 million, headed.

Tyson had let Jacobs take complete control of his financial matters, often saying: "My managers tell me who to fight and

when. I just go where the money is."

But now Tyson is concerned about whether he has received as good a deal as possible for the Spinks fight, the New York Times reported yesterday.

Tyson, who recently married actress Robin Givens, was quoted by the Times as saying on Saturday: "I have a wife, a child on the way. It's my obligation to take control."

Tyson's new assertiveness about finances follows the death last month of Jacobs, who was very close to the young champion. It also follows speculation that King and others are attempting to wrest control from Cayton of the Tyson money-machine.

"That's just not true," Braverman said. "Don doesn't want to steal any fight. He just wants to protect his position. He doesn't have any paper (contract with Cayton as Tyson's promoter). He never did have any paper. With Jimmy (Jacobs) he didn't need it."

Asked if King now had a contract with Tyson, Braverman would say only: "That's hard to say."

Braverman said that Jacobs gave King "a deathbed promise that he would be Tyson's promoter as long as Tyson held the title."

Haugen retains IBF title

TACOMA, Washington, April 12, (AP): Greg Haugen survived a head butt by challenger Miguel Santana and an erroneous initial decision by fight officials to retain his International Boxing Federation (IBF) lightweight championship last night, fight officials said.

Officials first announced that Santana, 23, had won the fight because Haugen suffered a two-inch-long cut over his right eyebrow when Santana unintentionally butted heads with him in the 11th round. Haugen was unable to answer the bell for the 12th round.

At the time, Haugen was leading the challenger on two of the three judges' cards, said referee Jimmy Cassidy.

Real
Most of the Tacoma dome crowd had gone home when Cassidy announced, a half hour later, that Haugen, 27, now 21-1-1, was the real winner of the scheduled 15-rounder.

Cassidy said IBF rules provide that the fighter leading on the official scorecards wins in case of an unintentional foul. Cassidy said he checked the three judges' scorecards and two had Haugen

ahead, 106-103.

The third judge had Santana in front, 106-103. Santana is now 20-4-1.

The Associated Press had Haugen in front, 106-104, when Cassidy and the ring physician, Dr. Sam Adams, ordered the fight halted because of the cut over Haugen's right eyebrow.

Cassidy termed Haugen's victory a 12th round technical decision. Haugen weighs 135; Santana 134.

When the fight was stopped, Cassidy raised Santana's hand in victory in the ring. The referee said later he did that because he thought Santana was ahead on points.

After both fighters left the ring, George Chermers, Haugen's 73-year-old trainer from Seattle, went to IBF officials and asked them to check the scorecards.

However, it took IBF officials about 30 minutes to tell the fighters who really won. Haugen came into the post-fight interviewing room briefly to congratulate Santana, thinking Santana had won. But IBF officials informed Haugen he was the winner.

NBA ROUNDUP

New York edge past Detroit

NEW YORK April 12, (AP): Patrick Ewing scored 36 points, including a gnarled turnaround jumper with 23 seconds left in overtime, in the New York Knicks' 114-111 NBA victory over the Detroit Pistons last night.

Ewing's basket made it 112-111, and when he missed the ensuing free throw, Detroit knocked the ball out of bounds, giving New York possession. Johnny Newman then hit two free throws with 13 seconds left and Detroit's Dennis Rodman missed a 3-point attempt just before time expired.

Isiah Thomas, who scored 23 of his 31 points in the last 15 minutes of regulation, gave the Pistons a 103-102 lead on an inside jumper with four seconds left, but Ewing was fouled on the inbound pass and made one of two free throws to force the overtime.

Bullets 86, Hawks 85
Darrell Walker's 20-footer with one second remaining gave Washington an 86-85 victory over the Atlanta Hawks, keeping the Bullets' NBA playoff chances alive.

The Bullets remained tied with the New York Knicks for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Walker came off the bench to lead the Bullets with 19 points. His game-winning came after Atlanta made up a 13-point first-quarter deficit and had gone ahead 85-83 on John Battle's 8-footer with 50 seconds left.

The Bullets then got within 85-84 when John Williams hit one of two free throws with 32 seconds left. Atlanta's Spud Webb missed a short jumper with six seconds left and the Bullets called a timeout to set up Walker's game-winning.

Dominique Wilkins led Atlanta with 17 points.

Pacers 95, Nets 93

John Long's 18-footer at the buzzer gave Indiana a 95-93 victory and handed the New Jersey Nets their 11th consecutive loss. The Pacers, in a five-way fight for three playoff spots in the Eastern Conference, rallied from a 11-point deficit in the fourth quarter.

Wayman Tisdale, who had a season-high 32 points for the Pacers, hit a free throw to tie the game at 93 with 40 seconds to go. He then grabbed a rebound of a missed jumper by New Jersey's Roy Hinson and long made his winning shot after Indiana got the ball inbound with three seconds remaining.

Tim McCormick led New Jersey with 20 points.

76ers 115, Bucks 102
Charles Barkley scored 31 points as the Philadelphia 76ers beat the Milwaukee Bucks 115-102 to break a four-game losing streak and keep their playoff hopes alive.

The 76ers scored 10 straight points after the Bucks rallied to take a 100-99 lead with 3:59 left when Barkley was assessed a technical foul and Jack Sikma made the free throw.

David Wingate of the 76ers then hit a fallaway jumper and Maurice Cheeks came up with a steal and layup to lead an 8-0 Philadelphia spurt.

The Bucks played without Paul Pressey who has a sprained ankle and leading scorer Terry Cummings, who was attending a funeral.

Ricky Pierce led Milwaukee with 20 points.

Jazz 113, Warriors 102

Thurl Bailey scored 11 of his 26 points during Utah's decisive 19-8 run late in the game to lead the Jazz over Golden State. The teams were tied at 94 with 4:53 left when Bailey led the spurt as Utah snapped a three-game losing streak.

Karl Malone led Utah with 36 points and 13 rebounds, while John Stockton had 18 points and 16 assists.

Chris Mullin led the Warriors with 23 points and seldom-used guard Tony White scored 14 points in 22 minutes of play.

Nuggets 123, Suns 119
Lafayette Lever scored 26 points and Michael Adams had 23, including five 3-point goals to stretch his NBA-record streak to 37 games, as Denver defeated Phoenix.

The win was the Nuggets' 13th in their last 14 games and moved them within one game of idle Dallas for the Midwest Division lead.

Phoenix lost for the sixth time in its last 10 games and fell 3 1-2 games behind idle San Antonio in the race for the eighth and final Western Conference playoff berth.

The game was tied 10 times, the last at 58-58 with 2:08 left in the second quarter before Denver closed out the half with an 8-2 run for a 66-60 lead.

Walter Davis paced the Suns with 25 points, while Rookie Armon Gilliam had 20 points and a career-high 14 rebounds.

Local Soccer

Sporting edge Sufa for semifinals

GOAN SPORTING edged past hosts-Sufa (GCA): 2-1 in the quarterfinals of the V. I. da Faria Memorial Football Tournament, sponsored by Agriolo Fernandes, at Sufa grounds on Friday.

Sufa, who held the upper hand in the initial stages of the first session, went into the lead through a goal by George Cahral in the 2nd minute. Cahral made no mistake with the spot-kick awarded by referee Julio, when Sporting's defender Inacio handled the ball in the penalty box.

Sporting, recovered from the initial shock, worked desperately for a late equaliser. When the referee blew the whistle, the Sporting players headed home off a beautiful pass given by Cajetan.

Played

After resumption of play, Sporting shot into the lead through their agile forward Felix Pereira in the 3rd minute, when he dodged past two defenders and after taking the keeper in his stride on the run of play, placed the ball into the corner of the net.

Sufa tried to equalise and advanced towards Sporting's goal on a couple of occasions, but both Vijay's and Cahral's feeble tries were saved by Sporting's keeper Patrick Santimano.

Fixtures for Friday:
Goa Maroons v/s Starlite at 7.00 am
Incredible v/s Goa Sporting at 8.30 am

Celebrity race

LONDON, April 12, (UPI) National Hunt jockey Peter Scudamore and former world eventing champion Lucinda Green are both set to try their hands at motor racing at a celebrity race at Brands Hatch next month.

BKME clinch Pat Kelly Trophy

BKME took the Pat Kelly Trophy after a hard-fought five-wicket victory over Hubara in the finals at the KOC New grounds over the weekend.

After winning the toss, Hubara elected to bat and they managed to score 143 for 8 in the allotted 24 overs with major contributions coming from their captain Craig Shipton 35 with three fours, Jimmy James 28 with one six and three boundaries, Clive Greenwood 16 not out, Denise 13 and Talbot 18.

Excellent

For BKME, Edwin claimed two wickets for 26 off 6 overs, James 2 for 35 off 5 overs and Mathew 2 for 22 off 4 overs and Tareq 1 for 11 in 3 overs. They were aided by some excellent fielding, with Ram Mohan taking 2 wicket catches.

Needless to say, BKME opened their innings through Ramesh and Ashfaq. They were averaging almost seven runs an over before Ashfaq departed, cutting a Pat Flower delivery to Jimmy James for 32. With the departure of Ashfaq at 72, BKME's innings fell apart and four wickets fell quickly.

Bastaki was howled by Oliver for 1. Ronnie was caught by Oliver off Denise for 15 and Ramesh was out to a superb catch by Jimmy James off Oliver for a fine 46 which included 3 fours and 1 six.



The victorious BKME squad. Bastaki holds the trophy.

With BKME struggling at 109 for 5 in 18 overs, Ram Mohan joined James and in a fine exhibition of power-hitting swung the match again in BKME's favour. With BKME needing 30 off the final 5 overs, Ram Mohan settled the issue in the 20th over when he

struck Oliver for 17 runs. He then hit six runs off the next over from Denise and BKME were home in the 22nd over with another huge six from Ram. At the end Ram Mohan was unbeaten on 29 with two sixes and 2 fours and James 9 not out.

For Hubara, Oliver took 3 wickets for 46 runs, while Pat Flower and Denise claimed a wicket each.

After the match, the chief guest Peter Pfeiffer handed over the trophy to BKME's captain Mahmood Bastaki.

Old Boys overwhelm Social

OLD BOYS Cricket Club (OBCC) scored a seven-wicket victory over Social Cricket Club in a friendly match at the Airport-Millat ground on Friday afternoon.

After winning the toss, Social skipper Indrapal Singh Oberoi elected to bat and opened his innings through Sydney D'Sa and Anu. Accurate bowling and some tight fielding by the Old Boys restricted Social to only 130

runs in their allotted overs.

Darryl, I.S. Oberoi and Paul were the leading scorers with 29, 27 and 26 runs respectively. For Old Boys, Ifukhar Hussain took two wickets while one each was taken by Riaz Chaudhry, Idress, Habib, Taj and Javed Shah.

Help

In reply, Old Boys opened their innings through Ashraf Rana and Riaz Chaudhry who put on 58 for the first-wicket partnership in only eight overs.

Riaz Chaudhry was run out for 22 while Ashraf Rana was bowled by Paul for 38. Ashraf hit five fours. Taj Malik slammed a quick-fire 33, with the help of six fours, before being superbly caught by Chris off Arun Nair.

Riaz Mian (18) and Adnan Shah took the Old Boys past the victory target without further loss to leave their team winners by seven wickets.

Dennis hurt in street brawl

LONDON, April 12, (UPI): Queen's Park Rangers defender Mark Dennis was in stable condition in the hospital today after having his throat cut in a street brawl.

Dennis was taken to a south-east London hospital shortly after 5 am yesterday. He had been attending a Professional Footballers Association awards dinner Sunday night, and later went on to a club with friends.

Kifco rout Falcon for Al Mulla Cup



Aqueel (left) receives the trophy from Ivan Pacheco

nership of 71 runs. Maqsood hit 45 while Mansoor scored 19 as they took the Kifco score past the 225 mark.

Tariq, coming on for a second spell, took the wickets of both Maqsood and Mansoor to leave Kifco at 230 for eight. Shahid, Rifat, and Lucas scored some useful runs to take Kifco's score to 255 in 44 overs. Amin came in for a lot of stick, being hit for 66 runs in six overs.

Sher Afzal (20) and Sajjad (26) gave a good start to Falcon putting on 48 in just 7 overs as Shahid Butt and Mansoor made no impression on them. Sher was the first to go, run out, with the total 49.

Left-arm spinner Shehzad accounted for Sajjad and Ayoub (28) making Falcon struggle at 67 for 3 in 13 overs. The quick dismissal of Amin (4), caught and bowled by Shahid Butt,

diminished any hopes Falcon might have had.

Shahid Perwaiz, bowling his off-spinners, completely demolished the middle-order line-up and Falcon were in Disarray at 133 for 6. Imran (21) and Rauf unbeaten on 19 were the only contributors from the middle-order.

Aqueel, in a fiery burst, howled Mushtaq, Tariq, and Nawaz on three consecutive deliveries and recorded the first hat-trick of the season.

Falcon were dismissed in 29 overs for 140 leaving Kifco winners by 115 runs. Aqueel had best bowling figures of 7-1-30-4.

Performance
Ivan Pacheco, director (DGM) of Al Mulla Group of Companies, sponsors of the tournament, congratulated Kifco on their splendid performance and presented the Cup and Man of the Match Award to Aqueel Ashraf for his brilliant all-round display. Prizes were also distributed to players of both teams, umpires, scorers and members of the Organising Committee.

Scores: Kifco 255 all out in 44 overs (Tariq 51, Aqueel 45, Maqsood 45, Sobail 37, Manzoor 19, Tariq 3 for 38 and Rauf 2 for 38). Falcon 140 all out in 29 overs. (Ayoub 28, Sajjad 26, Imran 21, Sher Afzal 20, Rauf 17 n.o., Aqueel 4 for 30 Shahid Perwaiz 2 for 13).



Some of the winners. From left to right: Dhruva Mukherjee, M. Merchant, Choudhury and Zafaruddin.

Choudhury takes Player of the Year award

SHYAMAL Roy Choudhury took the Player of the Year award at a prize distribution ceremony held by the Ahmadi Bridge Committee at the Hubara Club on Friday.

Prizes were also given to 19 other bridge players who were among the top twenty in the 1987-88 season. Choudhury was closely followed by Dhruva Mukherjee and Sherin Bayouni who were second and third respectively.

A special bridge tournament was held to mark the ceremony

with Jamila and Nabil Akel as North-South and Mohammed Merchant and Zafaruddin as East-West taking the top honours.

The event was organised by Nabil Akel.

The top ten players for the 1987-88 season:

1. Shyamal Roy Choudhury, 2. Dhruva Mukherjee, 3. Sherin Bayouni, 4. Alee Krekji, 5. Nabil Akel, 6. Stanley Drexler, 7. Beatrice Periera, 8. Dr Adel Bayouni, 9. Jamila Akel, 10. Aubrey D'Souza.

Results of the special tournament:
N/S
1. Jamila Akel & Nabil Akel.
2. Dhruva Mukherjee & Shyamal Choudhury.
3. Izzeldin & Sherin Bayouni.
4. Marcel Zananiri & Igneous Meochi.
E/W
1. Mohammed Merchant & Zafaruddin.
2. Dr Parikh & Sharma.
3. Diah & Ibrahim.
4. Beatrice Periera & Aubrey D'Souza.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Tomba promoted

ROME, April 12. (AP): Italian skier Alberto Tomba today was promoted to corporal of the Carabinieri (national police) corps following his "high sporting achievements."

The 21-year-old Italian won two Olympic titles and nine World Cup races in the just concluded season of alpine skiing.

WBC title fight

ROME, April 12. (AP): World Boxing Council (WBC) junior middleweight champion Gianfranco Rosi is recovering quickly from a broken shoulder and will be able to put his crown at stake against American challenger Donald Curry on July 8. Italian matchmaker Roberto Sabbatini announced today.

The title fight will be held in the Italian Riviera resort of San Remo.

Sanchez wins

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla., April 12. (Reuters): Spain's Arantxa Sanchez continued her climb up the rankings ladder by upsetting West German Isabel Cueti in the \$300,000 Florida women's clay court tennis championships yesterday.

Sanchez, 16, who has risen from 45 to 26 in the world rankings, eliminated the 10th-seeded Cueti 6-2, 6-2 in their opening round match.

Soccer strike

ROME, April 12. (Reuters): Politicians, the media and irate sports fans joined forces today to attack the decision by Italian footballers to stage the country's first national soccer strike this weekend.

"Regardless of whatever formal reason the union may have, the strike remains an act of folly and a gesture of irresponsibility," the Gazzetta dello Sport newspaper declared.

Dennis recovering

LONDON, April 12. (AP): Mark Dennis, a defender with English first division soccer team Queens Park Rangers, was recovering in hospital today after being stabbed in the throat while hailing a cab, police said.

"He is lucky to be alive," said the player's mother. "He has a very nasty wound in his neck."

New F-1 engine

MODENA, Italy, April 12. (AP): The auto racing division of US-owned Lamborghini today unveiled a brand-new Formula One engine that will be supplied to at least two teams this year.

The 12-cylinder, aspirated engine, made with extremely light and technologically advanced materials, was designed by Mauro Forghieri, a former technical director of the Ferrari team.

McGuigan fight

LONDON, April 12. (AP): Barry McGuigan, the former world featherweight boxing champion, has a substitute opponent for his comeback fight as a superfeatherweight next week.

The 27-year-old Irishman will meet Nicky Perez, from Tucson, Ariz., who holds the North American Boxing Federation featherweight title, promoter Frank Warren said today.

AL HASAWI MISSES CHANCE

Jordan hold Kuwait to goalless draw

KUALA LUMPUR, April 12. (Reuters): Jordan, showing improved form in their second game, held favourites Kuwait to a goalless draw in the Asian Cup qualifying soccer match today.

The Jordanians, who struggled to beat the unfancied Pakistan 1-0 on Sunday, were a transformed team but failed to get past Kuwait goalkeeper Sameer Sa'ad.

Header

Kuwait's best chance came in the 76th minute when Salah Al Hasawi's header hit the crossbar and Muh'd Al Ajmi struck the rebound wide.

Wednesday is a rest day. Kuwait got off a winning start last Friday by beating Japan 1-0. The Japanese, however, beat Malaysia 1-0 last night.

Jordan who beat Pakistan 1-0 last Sunday, played their hearts out to hold Kuwait to the scoreless draw.

Tonight's result has made the fight for the two tickets to the finals in Qatar more open.

However, Kuwait team leading official Sheikh Fahad Al Ahmad Al Sabah commented after the match: "We still have a good chance to the finals in Doha towards the end of this year."

Disappointed

The Kuwait FA president told Kuna he was not disappointed with his team for not winning the match against Jordan.

"Although we thought our team could have won quite easily, Jordan played very well tonight," he added.

Kuwait started off sluggishly but soon took control with better teamwork. However, they were let down by poor finishing.

Jordan, managed some constructive moves but these were not enough to trouble Kuwaiti goalkeeper Sameer Sa'ad.

The second half saw Jordan taking to the slippery pitch with renewed vigour to create havoc for the Kuwaiti defence but they too just could not find the net.

Meet

Jordan, will meet hosts Malaysia on Thursday while Kuwait will play Pakistan on Friday.

Malaysia and Japan have two points each while Jordan and Kuwait three points each after two matches.

Tablestanding of the Group B Asian Cup soccer qualifying round at the Merdeka Stadium here.



Al Hasawi

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kuwait	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
Jordan	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
Malaysia	2	1	0	1	1	1	2
Japan	2	1	0	1	1	1	2
Pakistan	2	0	0	2	0	5	0

Sports Lovers and Al Othman in quarterfinal

SPORTS LOVERS Club defeated Flying Arrows Sporting Centre by the first and second sets of the best of three games in the inaugural match of the Jimmy George Memorial Trophy volleyball tournament in Fahaheel, (15-7, 15-8) organised by Kuwait Malayalee Samajam.

In the second match of the day PIICO (Petrochemical International Instrumentation Co.) lost to Al Othman Catering Co. (16-14, 14-16, 15-8).

The inaugural match between Sports Lovers and Flying Arrows was a disappointing one to the hundreds of volleyball lovers gathered at the ground which did not meet their expectations. The Flying Arrows advanced in the beginning but the Sports Lovers accelerated their moves to rip apart the opponents' defence. Without making much effort the Sports Lovers won the first set (15-7).

The second set also began with the score advance of Flying Arrows but they could not maintain it.

The next match of the day, Al Othman Catering Co. trounced

PIICO by the first and 3rd sets of the game. The match was a high standard, producing many anxious moments by both the teams. Hundreds of ground supporters for the two teams cheered and clapped their hands throughout the game.

Al Othman exhibited their supremacy through their Ashok D'Costa, Moses Gomes, Caitheno D'Costa and captain R. Tamborkar by their beautiful placings and wide smashes. Al Othman displayed marvellous team work and swift movements.

Sports Lovers and Al Othman have qualified for the quarterfinals in this knock-out basis tournament.

The tournament, sponsored by Vandana, a Malayalam periodical from Kottayam, was inaugurated by Shujath Hussein Laidi, deputy manager of the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd., Kuwait.

There will be two matches on Friday April 15, at Fahaheel ground. Kerala Sports Club 'A' team vs Camy at 6.30 am; Kerala Sports Club 'B' team vs Kremenoco at 7.30 am.



Al Othman team.

Competitive values remain intact

English League celebrates 100 eventful years

LONDON, April 12. (Reuters): Times and appearances may have changed, but the competitive values which typified English League soccer in 1888 remain intact as the competition celebrates its 100th birthday with a celebratory weekend at Wembley stadium.

Consistency, strength and stamina — the hallmarks of the English game today — were held in high esteem as long ago as 1890 when Scot William McGregor, the chief instigator of the League, reflected on the progress of his infant creation.

"The League system is far and away ahead of all others as a test of merit," he said, uttering his words through a fashionably bushy beard.

Brilliance

"Erratic brilliance might win the Cup, but it will never get a team to the top of the League. The championship does not fall to a team which happens to be in form during a certain portion of the season or to enjoy freaks of fame fortune at the right moment."

"It can only be secured by the eleven which has played consistently during the five months of the season."

A few simple factual alterations — would be made, but the

essence of McGregor's words can be heard over and again from the managers of English League clubs in modern times.

So too can the criticisms. When McGregor, as a director of Aston Villa, invited several clubs to a meeting in London's Fleet Street, on March 22, 1888, to found the English Football League, its chief rival tournament, the Football Association (FA) Cup was already 17 years old.

Deplored

Amateur opponents of the League, purists with Corinthian views to uphold, deplored the introduction of the League which was established when the 12 founder clubs met again in Manchester on April 17 to agree their first fixture list.

McGregor admitted as much. "Opponents of the League say it is a combination founded of selfishness and mutual profit."

"In a sense, these amateur purists are right. But now clubs have to be run on strictly business lines if they are to steer clear of eventual bankruptcy."

"Large weekly liabilities have to be met, so without big gates in production, failure is only a question of time."

McGregor, a draper, was the force behind the creation of the

Pakistan last pair frustrate W. Indies

CASTRIES, St Lucia, April 12. (Reuters): Pakistan's last pair held out for a further 70 minutes, frustrating West Indies Under-23 team in their attempt to win against the odds on the fourth and final day of their cricket match today.

Pakistan, 138 for nine overnight, were all out for 173, leaving the Under-23s the improbable task of scoring 371 for victory.

Extending

Hafiz Shahid and Zakir Khan held up the West Indians by extending their stand to 39 in 73 minutes until Hafiz was caught for 37 off a delivery from off-spinner Nehemiah Perry, who took three for 51. Fast bowler Ian Bishop ended with three for 52.

In just under 40 minutes batting before lunch, the West Indians reached 45 for one.

Sudesh Dhaniram was bowled for 15 by the last ball before the interval from left-arm paceman Wasim Akram, having his first spell of the match after resting a thigh strain.

The other opener, "Deiroy Morgan, was 20 not out.

West Indies Under-23 XI staged a dramatic and unexpected fightback against Pakistan taking nine wickets for only 138 in the tourists second innings yesterday.

Aggressive

With one day left, the Pakistanis had an overall lead of 335. Pakistan never recovered from a disastrous start losing their first four batsmen for 30 to Ian Bishop and Barrington Brown.

Only Rameez with an aggressive 65 got over 16 with Rajendra Dhanraj and Nehemiah Perry each claiming two wickets.

Bishop returned the best

figures with 3 for 38. The young West Indians had earlier been dismissed shortly after lunch for 250, giving Pakistan a first innings lead of 197.

Mudassar declined to enforce the follow-on, wanting the match to extend well into the fourth day in order to give Wasim Akram a decent bowl before the start of the second Test on Thursday.

Akram has been having treatment for a thigh strain and was not bowled in the Under 23 XI's first innings. Only two young West Indian batsmen managed to distinguish themselves.

Keith Arthurton, an attacking left-hander from the tiny Leeward island of Nevis, hammered his way to a brilliant 124, blasting 24 fours and a six.

Clinched

This followed on his 132 against the Pakistanis for the board XI last month. Watched by Clyde Walcott, chairman of West Indies selectors, Arthurton, 23, should have clinched a place in West Indies' squad to tour England later this year.

James Adams, a 20-year old left-hander from Jamaica, made a determined 51 not out off 176 balls. Adams, 18 not out overnight resisted doggedly as Abdul Qadir and Ijaz Faqih, with 3 wickets each quickly worked their way through the Under 23 XI later order batsmen after Arthurton had been fifth out at 204.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN first innings 447 (Rameez Raja 82, Ejaz Ahmed 84) WEST INDIES Under-23 XI first innings 250 (K. Arthurton 124, J. Adams 51 not out) PAKISTAN second innings (overnight) 138 for nine (Rameez Raja 16, Nehemiah Perry 3, Shoaib Mohammad 1, Bishop 4)

Salim Malik 10 w b Bishop 5
Aamer Malik 10 w b Brown 5
Ejaz Ahmed c Murray b Brown 10
Ijaz Faqih b Bishop 5
Wasim Akram c Brown b Dhanraj 16
Abdul Qadir c Lara b Dhanraj 4
Mudassar Nazar 10 w b Perry 7
Hafiz Shahid c Bishop b Perry 37
Zakir Khan not out 11
Extras (b-1 lb-5 nb-3) 12
Total 173

Fall of wickets: 1-52-11 3-124-38 5-49 6-92 7-103 8-113 9-134
Bowling: Bishop 18-5-52-3, Brown 13-1-39-2, Perry 15-5-51-3, Dhanraj 12-2-18-2, Arthurton 3-2-4-0

Lindqvist suffers upset

TOKYO, April 12. (Reuters): Third-seeded Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden was the biggest name to lose in the opening round of the \$617,500 Japanese Grand Prix tennis tournament today.

Lindqvist was eliminated by Dutch girl Brenda Schultz 1-6, 6-3. Seventh-seeded Etsuko Inoue also went out by 0-6, 4-6, 1-6 to Soviet player Natalia Bykova.

Two seeded men, number 10 John Frawley of Australia and number 14 Joey Rive of the United States were also beaten.

Derek Rostagno of the United States ousted Frawley 7-6, 3-6, 6-3 while Rive was ousted in straight sets by Steven Shaw of Britain 6-3, 6-3.

The top-seeded in action today, number five David Pate of the United States, won comfortably, 6-1, 6-2 over compatriot Tim Pawsat.

The big names in the event, including world number three Stefan Edberg of Sweden and American John McEnroe, play their opening matches tomorrow.

US hopeful of staging 1994 World Cup soccer

WASHINGTON, April 12. (AP): He doesn't have a say in the issue, but the head of American soccer's national governing body thinks the United States has a good chance to be selected as the host country for the 1994 World Cup.

"I don't think I'd like to go on record saying we're the favourite, but I feel very positive; stronger today than a year ago," Werner Fricker, president of the United States Soccer Federation, said yesterday.

"I've spent a lot of time analysing it, and if I had to vote I'd pick the US for a variety of reasons."

The United States, Brazil or Morocco will be named host of the 1994 World Cup when the Federation International De Football Association, soccer's international governing body, announces its choice on July 4, at a meeting in Zurich.

Members of the Fifa technical inspection group yesterday launched a week-long, 13-city tour of

the United States to examine 16 stadiums and related facilities that would serve as sites for the month-long event.

The group visited Washington's RFK Stadium yesterday morning, and other stops will include Philadelphia, Chicago, Minneapolis, Seattle, Las Vegas, Dallas and several cities of the state of Florida.

To qualify to host the World Cup, a country must have 12 stadiums with natural turf for playing surfaces.

The inspection team has already been to Brazil and Morocco, but Fricker thinks they will have many positive things to write about after completing their tour of America.

The USSF announced its intention to host the 1994 World Cup in April 1987, and soon after that sent the Fifa a report on stadiums that could be used for the dozens of games needed to determine a champion.

Third round of Kuwait National Championship on Friday

Wazzan aims at gaining as many points as possible

By Gail Seery

WITH the third round of the Kuwait National Championship set to take place on Friday, one of Kuwait's best known and most capable drivers, Tareq Al Wazzan, is out to gain as many points as possible in order to boost his flagging championship bid.

Wazzan is still one of the Arab world's most internationally accomplished drivers. He started rallies, or the nearest equivalent in the type of event KTMSD organises today, as long ago as 1973. In 1978 he took second place in the Kuwait International, and the following year became the first Arab driver to rally in Europe. He has driven a wide range of different cars, from BMWs to Minis, and still seems set to baffle his competition, by being totally reluctant to reveal which car he will be driving in any given event.

He had originally intended to make a return to a conventional type of rally car for this round of the championship. His Toyota Celica was shipped to Dubai for repairs following a broken gearbox in the last rally of last season, which forced Wazzan and his navigator Khaled Khalifa back into second place. The car was expected to be back in Kuwait in good time for Wazzan to enter it for Friday's rally if he chose to do so.

"When I saw these stages," Al Wazzan told the Arab Times, "I knew that my Range Rover would have an advantage." After practice he said that the stages were "beautiful for the Range Rover." This means that once again, he has made the decision to sacrifice the speed of the Toyota for the strength of the Range Rover.

However, in the Kuwait International last month, that same wisdom turned sour. He had deliberately chosen the 4x4 vehicle because, he said, it was stronger, and he couldn't run the risk of damaging his car on the undeniably rough stages of the first day, because he needed it in one piece for every rally of the season if he was going to be able to take the Championship again.

Remark

He broke down frustratingly close to the start of the event, just a few kilometres into the Arafat stage. "There was a small jump. It wasn't dangerous, and all I had in the pace notes was a remark that control would be needed on landing. What happened was that we went to the left, and then stopped. When we looked we saw that the wheel had come away and the front axle was broken. I was very disappointed."

At that point Wazzan had been lying second in the National Championship, just 5 points behind reigning Champion



Wazzan in action during second round.

Ahmed Al Hilal. Now he finds himself in eighth place, and is no longer Wazzan's major problem. Although Faez Chihab's car is relatively low powered, he has the tenacity and experience to make up for this with sound results throughout the season.

He is adamant that he will be contesting all rallies, despite an expected move to Dubai where he will work as editor of Saeed Al Hajri's car magazine Al Syara. He could well take this year's championship if his plans bear fruit.

Hilal himself is lying in equal fifth place with 28 points, and is no longer Wazzan's major problem. Although Faez Chihab's car is relatively low powered, he has the tenacity and experience to make up for this with sound results throughout the season.

He is adamant that he will be contesting all rallies, despite an expected move to Dubai where he will work as editor of Saeed Al Hajri's car magazine Al Syara. He could well take this year's championship if his plans bear fruit.

Josef Miskulnig is also out for the championship, but will be

unable to participate in this rally as he is out of the country. Instead, his navigator Klaus Schwingenshlogl will be partnering Peter Freiseneger in the VW Beetle.

Whereas neither Ahmed Al Nasser or Tareq Al Alyan are likely champions, both have made a very solid start to the season and could well clinch the championship with their moderate driving approaches.

Suffered

The most unlikely combination of car and driver has to be Ahmed Al Zafri, undeniably one of the country's fastest drivers, in the tiny Daihatsu Charade that was driven first by Al Hilal, and then for two rallies by Tareq Al Alyan. Zafri has suffered a long run of bad luck with mechanical problems forcing him out of each event since last May's night rally when he came in second to Wazzan. However, with the right car behind him this driver could well move rapidly up the championship table.

Standings in National Championship after 2 rounds:

1. Josef Miskulnig	7	48	55
2. Faez Chihab	16	38	54
3. Ahmed Al Nasser	14	32	46
4. Tareq Alyan	12	40	40
5. Ahmed Al Hilal	24	4	28
6. Nori Al Hasawi	8	20	28
7. Jamal Marafi	8	24	24
8. Tareq Al Wazzan	19	4	23
9. Ahmed Al Mousa	5	14	19
10. Eid Fahh	2	16	18

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